HARPER GOES ON THE OFFENSIVE IN DEBATE

PAGE 8

Celebrity pg 34

Tina Fey offered $6M for book: Report



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Birthday Parties

Cops arrest woman after run of thefts

CRIME Police tracked down and arrested a woman in relation to three early morning robberies Thursday.

Starting at 4:10 a.m., a woman armed with a knife demanded cash at the Needs store on Herring Cove Road.

Similar robberies struck the Esso on Young Street an hour later, and Robin's Donuts on North Street at 5:20 a.m.

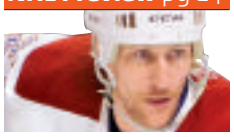
Police were able to identify a suspect, and arrested a 20-year-old woman on Roleika Drive in Dartmouth at 10 a.m.

METRO HALIFAX

Local pg 3

New column: Because I Said So

NHL Preview pg 14



Habs have high hopes for Kovalev

Apartment Finder

Special: Find a new home

pg 8-9

ShareYourViews
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RYAN TAPLIN / METRO HALIFAX

Wanda White holds her nine-month-old daughter Calliope Aulenback as they greet visitors to Province House on Thursday. The mother and daughter were dressed in 1750s-era clothing to celebrate the 250th anniversary of parliamentary democracy in Nova Scotia.

City turns back time

Democracy in Canada hits 250th anniversary

LINDSAY JONES
lindsay.jones@metronews.ca

The clock turned back to 1758 yesterday in downtown Halifax, all in the name of democracy.

The full day of activities, which kicked off with a traditional Mi'kmaq smudging ceremony and military encampment and ended with a dazzling 18th-century ball, marked the 250th birthday of parliamentary democracy in Canada.

Rain and fog dampened things a little, postponing the Blue Nose II sail-past and 8:30 p.m. fireworks until today, if the weather permits.

Metro Halifax asked people on the street yesterday if they knew why people were celebrating.

Andre MacNeil of Halifax, who stopped pedaling past Grand Parade to check out the bagpipers, said he had heard about it on the news yesterday morning.

"I didn't know it was happening here so it's sort of cool," he said. "It's nice to see everybody in costume."

Student Gillian Bones knew what the revelry was about, but didn't think it was deserved.

"I don't have a strong faith in democracy in Canada as I would like to," she said.

"We have it pretty good; don't get me wrong, but I'm not sure democracy is alive and kicking.

Unfortunately, there's still quite a few inequities within our political structures that haven't been totally ironed out yet."

The province launched the Democracy 250 celebrations and activities to recognize Nova Scotia's role in having the oldest legislature and representative government in the country.

Police looking for prisoner mistakenly freed from jail

LINDSAY JONES
lindsay.jones@metronews.ca

Another prisoner was mistakenly released from jail, and it took officials more than a week to find out.

The Justice Department issued a release after 6 p.m. yesterday notifying the public that Shane Captain Bernard Upshaw, 20, was released due to a clerical error. He has been convicted of break and enter, theft and gun charges.

Upshaw was awaiting sentencing in the Central Nova Scotia Correctional Facility in Burnside, and was released Sept. 24 after appearing on other matters at Dartmouth provincial court. An error on his documentation indicated he need not return to jail.

The mistake was discovered when the Kentville Crown called the jail to arrange a sentencing date.

"We're hoping anyone will contact the local police authority if they know about Mr. Upshaw's whereabouts," said Justice Department spokeswoman Sherri Aikenhead.

Police are checking addresses and areas Upshaw is known to frequent.

Aikenhead said an internal investigation is underway to determine exactly how the error happened.

"Anytime a mistaken release happens, it's one too many," she said.

Other releases

- This is the fourth time in the last year a prisoner has been mistakenly released.

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Events scheduled to promote responsible gambling
Keeping gambling fun instead of a problem is behind the seventh annual Responsible Gambling Awareness Week starting on Sunday. Events aimed at promoting responsible gambling will be held across the province next week. METRO HALIFAX

Local

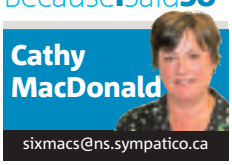


Green superhero contest

Forget Superman, who's the greenest superhero? Clean Nova Scotia is hosting a superhero contest for kids. Besides a drawing of a caped crusader, kids between seven and nine years old will write a statement about how they can be 'super people' by reducing waste. Deadline for entries is Oct. 31st. METRO HALIFAX

A mother's gotta do ... what a mother's gotta do

BecauseISaidSo



Cathy MacDonald
sixmacs@ns.sympatico.ca

Editor's note: Cathy MacDonald's Because I Said So column is new to Metro, and we're delighted to have it. Whether you're a twentysomething with parents, or a parent yourself, you'll find Cathy's tales of life with four kids laugh-out-loud funny. Watch for it every Friday in Metro Halifax.

My friend was a little shocked. "You actually said *that* to your kid," she asked.

THAT was just a simple sentence. "Yep, I do love your brother more than you."

I have four kids, two boys and two girls, so there were days I said "I love your sister more than you." And there were even days when I said, "It's the cat. Today, I love the cat more."

Let's face it, as a mother of four I am always outnumbered. To maintain my sanity, and some sense of order within the clan, I had to come up with some one-liners to keep me two steps ahead of them.

So, after having heard the whine "you love him more than me" for the 742nd time, I decided to agree. "You're right," I said with a huge sad sigh. "I do love him more."

There was stunned silence. And then the kids began to laugh. I mean, how ridiculous is that, right? Loving one kid more?

Well, there is that old saying that a mother only loves most the child that needs love most that day.

And then there's my saying: "Love most the child who didn't bring a note home from the principal today."

Babies grow up to be teenagers. I've found it especially useful to have one-liners ready for spirited teens. One of my favourites is "Let's pretend we already had this fight, and I won."

What a time-saver! It's especially useful when a child is absolutely not going to change my mind, but I don't feel like arguing an hour to prove it.

"Hmm, let me think on that" is another good line. This is Mom-speak for "I'm too tired to respond at the moment." It works really well at buying time, because it gives the impression you might actually say 'yes' and so the kids leave you alone to think.

Let's face it, as a mother of four I am always outnumbered. To maintain my sanity, and some sense of order within the clan, I had to come up with some one-liners to keep me two steps ahead of them.

After a while, young kids even forget they asked you anything. Teens won't, of course, but you'll have had hours to figure out a good reason why you're saying no.

And finally, there is the mother of all sayings — the one you hated and swore as a kid you would never, ever say to your own children. "Because I said so…"

Funny how good that sounds on this side of the coffee cup, isn't it?

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Workers at IMP Aerospace refuse work over safety issues

JENNIFER TAPLIN
jennifer.taplin@metronews.ca

Employees at IMP Aerospace refused to go to work yesterday.

They sent out a statement yesterday morning announcing their refusal to work because of health and safety concerns.

"The company is either unwilling or unable to protect our members health and safety," said Scott Beaver, CAW union representative and president of the Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee.

CAW Local 2215 represents over 500 aerospace and electronics workers in the Halifax area, 150 of whom work at IMP. IMP provides engineering and support to the Canadian and American military. Specifically they work on Sea King, Aurora, and Cormorant aircraft.

The provincial labour department began investigating complaints at IMP in 1996, but on May 31st, 2007 the federal department of labour took over the investigation.

"We have little to no support from the federal inspectorate since that time, and after several failed attempts to resolve the issues it has come to this," said Beaver in the statement. He did not return calls yesterday.

"These members are refusing to work at any building operated by IMP."

IMP's operations are housed at the Halifax Stanfield International Airport.

An IMP representative as well as a federal health and safety officer did not return calls yesterday.

Lobster season start up for debate

FISHING When it comes to the opening day of the fall lobster fishery off southwestern Nova Scotia, fishermen seem trapped in a debate of whether the industry would be better off to stick with the status quo and open the last Monday of November, or push back the opening to Dec. 1.

The reason for the debate is the last Monday of November falls on Nov. 24, giving fishermen a full week of fishing at the end of the month, whereas in other seasons the last Monday has been further back in the calendar.

METRO HALIFAX

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What's online today.

Check out our complete coverage of last night's leaders' debate at www.metronews.ca/election
Find movie showtimes, trailers and reviews at metronews.ca/movies
Search for jobs using Metro's Workopolis search
Play online Sudoku!

2008 proves a record year for cruises: Port

DEVIN STEVENS
for Metro Halifax

Bars and restaurants were packed yesterday as a record 9,700 people on four different cruise ships docked in Halifax Harbour. Things were so busy at O'Carroll's Irish Pub the manager couldn't stop to talk.

"I would love to but we're all backed up," said manager Mark Boyd. "You can call back later. Actually, wait. I have pub crawls all afternoon because of the cruise ships."

The Halifax Port Authority says cruises inject $25 million into the city's economy every year. The authority was celebrating the ships' arrival by giving each captain a Democracy 250 flag. Passengers got cake and souvenirs.

"2008 has certainly been a record year for cruise at the Port of Halifax," Catherine McGrail, the authority's Manager of Cruise Development, said in a news release.

"The Port and its partners have been instrumental in developing our reputation as the premier port of call in Atlantic Canada."



RYAN TAPLIN/METRO HALIFAX

A record 9,700 cruise passengers were in Halifax yesterday as four ships docked in Halifax Harbour.

"...our bars are happy, our gift shops are happy."
Danny Morton

Almost 130 ships and 220,000 passengers are expected in the 2008 season.

"It's proven that bringing cruise people in, it's like a huge interactive brochure," said Danny Morton, chair of the Tourism Industry Association of Nova Scotia.

"There's no better way to introduce somebody to the area, and there's a large number that decide to come back."

Morton said many tourists have already cruised to the Caribbean and Alaska. As a result, the Atlantic region is just being discovered.

He said some don't consider cruises as a tourism product because passengers don't stay in hotels.

"But our bars are happy, our gift shops are happy."

Use your gaming ability for charity
University students will use their video-game thumbs to fight cancer. Frag for Cancer, Oct. 11, is a video game tournament fundraiser for the Canadian Cancer Society at Dalhousie University. METRO HALIFAX

Official defends city's online voting system

LINDSAY JONES
lindsay.jones@metronews.ca

Early bird voters may cast their ballots for the upcoming municipal election online tomorrow as the city launches a new, controversial e-voting system.

The issue is an estimated 2,800 people — about one per cent of all registered voters — have more than one valid e-voting login.

That could allow them to cast more than one vote for the Oct. 18 election.

So far, about 120 people have come forward, says Cathy Mellett, the city's e-vote project manager.

Still, Mellet says she's confident in the system, which requires voters to enter their birthdate when they vote.

"No voters list is ever perfect, but we've been taking additional precautions to ensure that we're tracking and monitoring and reporting duplicates and deceased voters, disabling pins during the entire process," she said.

Bruce DeVenne, who's running against Bob Harvey for District 23 in Lower Sackville, thinks e-voting should be scrapped.

"It's too easy to be abused," he said. "It just doesn't seem to be secure or bug-free enough for my liking."

DeVenne also takes issue having the advance e-voting so far ahead of election day Oct. 18. He says it's not fair to the non-incumbents because it cuts their campaign time in half.

Mellett says the city needs time to update the voter lists before the next advance poll Oct. 11. While technology is available to do that faster, she said e-voting is a pilot project and the city wasn't prepared to move any faster.

Despite the kinks, some voters say nothing beats the convenience of voting from their livingrooms.

Paul McEachern of southend Halifax says he's leaning towards it.

"People fill the newspapers with complaints about city hall and the school board, but then they never go out and vote," he said.

"So (I'm for) anything that would add more participation."

Catherine Wilcox of north-end Halifax says she'll likely try it out, too.

"It might help me not have to go out," she said.

E-voting

- E-voting begins tomorrow at 8 a.m. and continues to 8 p.m. Monday. Use the PIN number with instructions provided on your voter notification letter. If you run into trouble, call the voter help centre: 490-8683.

News in brief

CHASE Police tried to stop a vehicle near the Fairview overpass at Joe Howe Drive and Dutch Village Road Wednesday night. The vehicle didn't stop and sped away. A red light slowed the driver and a police vehicle blocked his path. He was taken into custody in a "high risk traffic stop." He was removed from the vehicle and faces criminal charges.

ROBBERY A man told police he was robbed at gunpoint on Roleika Drive Wednesday. He handed over cash and ran away. Police say no shots were fired and there were no injuries. Police are looking for the suspect described as a black man wearing a red hoodie.

CRASH Charges are pending in a Wednesday accident between a car and cyclist. The car turned onto Dartmouth Road from Bedford Highway and into the path of the cyclist. The cyclist was taken to hospital for treatment. METRO HALIFAX



RYAN TAPLIN/FOR METRO HALIFAX

NSLC employee Amber Faulkner stocks the shelves at a makeshift wine store at the Cunard Centre on Thursday. The annual Port of Wines festival takes place this weekend.

Lucky 13 for oenophiles at fest

JENNIFER TAPLIN
jennifer.taplin@metronews.ca

The number 13 just might be lucky in wines.

The 13th Port of Wines Festival starts today where wines from 13 different countries will be ooohed and aaahed over.

"Thirteen is lucky, lucky," said Peter Rockwell, a key organizer.

Every year a country is picked as a theme and this year Argentina is in the spotlight.

> **"We try to represent what a country or area offers and have a number of different price points, so people can try a lighter wine up to a super-duper premium brand."**
> Peter Rockwell, a festival organizer

"To many people, whether you're an expert or just a novice who enjoys a glass of wine, you can't ignore the fact that Argentinean wines have just exploded."

Fifty of the 330 wines showcased this weekend are from Argentina.

It will give the connoisseur a wide selection from the cheap to the expensive.

Wine sales will hit about $500,000 over the two days as 6,000 to 7,000 people pour through the Cunard Centre.

"We try to represent what a country or area offers and have a number of different price points so people can try a lighter wine up to a super-duper premium brand," Rockwell said.

About 80 per cent of the wines are brand new and not normally available on NSLC store shelves.

"You could be the first to actually purchase it," Rockwell said.

Motorists confused by price differences at area pumps

More than a few motorists were shaking their heads in confusion yesterday.

The price at the pumps in Nova Scotia hovered around 122.5 cents a litre yesterday, but it was four cents cheaper in New Brunswick. Both provinces are regulated.

"I can't figure it out," said Gary Stewart of Tatamagouche. "I'm not the sharpest knife in the drawer, but I'm not the stupidest one. It just doesn't make sense that across the border it's four cents cheaper."

Prices were expected to drop as of midnight last night and Stewart was hopeful it would go down to 118.5 cents a litre.

> **"I just wish regulation was more in the interest of people ..."**
> Scott Milsom

Regulation has potential, said Scott Milsom of Halifax.

"I just wish regulation was more in the interest of people rather than the interest of corporations," he said.

As she filled up her car yesterday, Barb Bourgeois puzzled over the price difference.

"It doesn't make any sense," she said. "Two provinces this close together, there shouldn't be any difference."

She added she's very frustrated that everything seems to be going up these days.

"There's not enough money to go around."

JENNIFER TAPLIN/METRO HALIFAX



ERIN MACDONALD/FOR METRO HALIFAX

Barb Bourgeois fills up at the Esso station at the intersection of Robie and Young yesterday.

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(12 ROLL) BATHROOM TISSUE
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SATURDAY ONLY 4.77 each REST OF WEEK 5.99



HUGGIES
MAINLINE (40's - 72's), PULL-UPS
(33's - 44's), SUPREME (34's - 66's),
ULTRATRIM MEGA (84's) or
PAMPERS MEGA (28's - 84's)
DIAPERS Selected Types
Limit 4. After limit 15.99

SATURDAY ONLY 13.99 each REST OF WEEK 15.99



O.B. TAMPONS (18's - 20's),
STAYFREE MAXIPADS (14's - 24's)
or **CAREFREE** PANTILINERS
(34's - 60's) Selected Types
Limit 4. After limit 2.99

SATURDAY ONLY 1.99 each REST OF WEEK 2.99



QUO
Cosmetic Brushes
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Limit 4

SATURDAY ONLY 40% off* REST OF WEEK 30% OFF*



QUALITY STREET
TIN 1kg
Limit 4. After limit 16.99

SATURDAY ONLY 13.77 each REST OF WEEK 16.99

SONY 2GB MEMORY STICK PRO DUO
29.99 each



SONY DSC-S730
7.2 MEGA PIXELS 3x OPTICAL
ZOOM DIGITAL CAMERA
Limit 2. After limit 99.99

SATURDAY ONLY 88.88 each REST OF WEEK 99.99



LAY'S STAX POTATO CHIPS
155g - 163g Selected Flavours
Limit 4. After limit 1.69

SATURDAY ONLY 99¢ each REST OF WEEK 1.69



LIFE BRAND (225g), **CHRISTIE**
(200g - 454g) SNACK CRACKERS or
CHRISTIE RITZ CHIPS (225g)
Limit 4. After limit 1.49

SATURDAY ONLY 99¢ each REST OF WEEK 1.49



EVERYDAY MARKET
EVAPORATED MILK 370mL
Limit 4. After limit 1.29

SATURDAY ONLY 88¢ each REST OF WEEK 1.29



MAYNARDS CANDY (55g - 64g),
NESTLÉ or HERSHEY
SINGLE CHOCOLATE BARS
Selected Types & Sizes
or 79¢ each Limit 4

SATURDAY ONLY 2/99¢ REST OF WEEK 79¢



AQUAFINA PLUS WATER (4 x 473mL),
FRUITOPIA, DOLE SPARKLERS, **FIVE ALIVE,**
LIPTON GREEN TEA, **NESTEA** ICED TEA
or **TROPICANA** TWISTER BEVERAGE
(12 X 355mL) Selected Types
Limit 4. After limit 3.99
+ Deposit & Enviro Levy Where Applicable

SATURDAY ONLY 2.99 each REST OF WEEK 3.99



VENUS
EMBRACE CARTRIDGES (4's),
MACH 3 or **VENUS**
EMBRACE BONUS PACK
Limit 4. After limit 9.99

SATURDAY ONLY 7.97 each REST OF WEEK 9.99



L'ORÉAL FERIA or **REVLON**
FROST & GLOW HAIR COLOUR
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PROFESSIONAL MAKEUP
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SHOPPERS DRUG MART

Promoting energy conservation at the Ideal Home Show

Conserve Nova Scotia is hoping to advise some of the 20,000 or so people who will check out the Ideal Home Show this weekend on how to save energy. They'll be manning the Great to be Green section at the trade show at Exhibition Park. METRO HALIFAX

Fougere renews attack

Slams mayor's work on violence, Commonwealth Games

LINDSAY JONES
lindsay.jones@metronews.ca

Sheila Fougere has come out swinging against Mayor Peter Kelly again.

In a release outlining her platform to enhance the city's "quality of place," the mayoral candidate slammed how Kelly has dealt with violence, the Commonweath Games, and his focus on developing plans and reports.

Kelly shrugged off the criticism, saying they just reaffirm the work council has already done.

Fougere says Kelly's approach to dealing with violence downtown has only enhanced negative stereotypes, and has still not resulted in a single point of action.

Kelly disagrees, saying 32 new police officers have been hired, and the 24 who graduated yesterday are coming on board, too.

Fougere also criticized Kelly's "lack of leadership and backroom dealings," which she says resulted in HRM losing more than $700 million in facilities funding earmarked for the Commonwealth Games.


Sheila Fougere

Kelly's response was that backing out of the games bid saved taxpayers $1.3 billion. "Clearly I have no regrets," he said.

Fougere also accused Kelly of being too focused on developing plans and reports and competing for concerts, but Kelly says planning is important.

"You just don't go helter skelter," he says.

Citizens will vote for a new mayor on Oct. 18.

Public forums

- Mayor Peter Kelly and Sheila Fougere will answer questions today at noon at the Halifax Club ($25).
- The Downtown Halifax Business Commission is hosting a free public mayoral candidates forum Monday at 6 p.m. at Pier 21.

Luke glad to be denied post at 'failing' network

DEVIN STEVENS
for Metro Halifax

Rosamond Luke says the women's group that fired her last week has been in shambles for a long time, and she's glad she won't have to work there anymore.

"As far as I'm concerned, the Halifax Women's Network has failed, failed, failed … to the point where the most you can get at any of the meetings are four people ," Luke said when reached by phone yesterday.

The All Women's Empowerment and Development Association (AWEDA) fired Luke last month after accounting irregularities allegedly showed she wrote more than $80,000 in cheques to herself. Police have been called in to investigate.

The Women's Network issued a press release last week saying that Luke would not be their incoming president because of the AWEDA debacle.

"I'm relieved not (to be) the president because it would have been a disaster..."
Rosamond Luke

Luke blamed this decision on the Women's Network's past president, Brenda Saunders/Todd, who was also chair of the AWEDA board that fired Luke. She didn't return calls from Metro yesterday.

The network's website lists 20 members, but the list hasn't been updated since 2006.

"(The Women's Network) haven't kicked me out," Luke said. "I'm relieved not (to be) the president because it would have been a disaster because it's already failing.

"They have to go back and increase their membership and find out what their problems are, rather than putting a press release to say they've asked me to step down."

Cunard Centre **Easter Seals Guardians at work**


RYAN TAPLIN/METRO HALIFAX

David Langstroth checks out the Easter Seals Guardians set up in front of the Cunard Centre yesterday. The Guardians were a public art project in 2007 where local artists created 28 seven-foot-high guardians to be displayed in public places around the city.

5 charged in Bridgewater marijuana, cocaine bust

ARRESTS Police in Bridgewater busted a major marijuana and cocaine organized crime ring this week.

An RCMP police dog and several officers searched three houses in Lunenberg and Queens County on Wednesday. Three men and two women were arrested.

They found 65 pounds of marijuana — as well as a small amount of cocaine — worth $370,000.

Charges include possession of cocaine, trafficking marijuana and production of cannabis marijuana. All five accused are scheduled to appear in provincial court on Dec. 17th.

The drug bust is the result of 18 months of work by the South Shore Integrated Street Crime Enforcement Unit.

During that time, they effected over 100 search warrants and seized more than $2.4 million worth of drugs. They've also seized $500,000 worth of stolen property and significant amounts of illegal cigarettes. METRO HALIFAX

Work pays off

- Police say their street-crime operation has successfully disrupted criminal activities on the South Shore, with a 30 per cent reduction in property offences.

CBU in talks to build wind turbine

ENERGY Cape Breton University could become the first university in Canada with its own full-size wind turbine.

According to Luciano Lisi, a local proponent of wind energy, the planned project has a completion date tentatively set for late 2009 and could see the school producing 850 kilowatts of its own power.

News of the turbine surfaced Wednesday when Lisi spoke of discussions between his company — Cape Breton Explorations Ltd. — and CBU during his presentation to members of the Sydney and Area Chamber of Commerce.

University officials were reluctant to discuss project details but did confirm ongoing talks.

CAPE BRETON POST

RCMP says it will take months to review nominee program files

DEVIN STEVENS
for Metro Halifax

The auditor general has turned his dismal findings on the Nova Scotia nominee program over to the RCMP, but the police say it will take at least two months of research and review before a criminal investigation is launched.

"The files have to be reviewed to see what the contents are in order for us to see where we can go with it from here," Sgt. Mark Gallagher said yesterday.

"You have to show intent, you have to show whether or not criminal offences occurred."

"The files have to be reviewed ... in order for us to see where we can go with it from here. You have to show intent, you have to show whether or not criminal offences occurred."
Sgt. Mark Gallagher

Started in 2002, the nominee program fast-tracked immigrants to Nova Scotia in exchange for $130,000. That money was supposed to provide the immigrants with a six-month middle-management mentorship at a Nova Scotia company.

Auditor general Jacques Lapointe's report said much of that money was skimmed away by immigration agents, lawyers and companies involved.

Many of the mentorships never happened, and at least one contract was awarded to a company based outside Nova Scotia.

Gallagher said the force will review piles of documents over the next two months and report back to Lapointe with their findings.

If justified, they'll then launch a criminal investigation.

Apple packer lands $2M loan from province

INDUSTRY A $2-million provincial loan will help apple packer Scotian Gold, well, pack more apples.

The loan will provide for a new pre-sorting system for apple packing. It will enable Scotian Gold to increase capacity, fill orders quicker and find more markets for their products.

"We have a committed group of progressive growers who have invested heavily in new orchard systems that are yielding increased production of high-quality and premium apples," said David Cudmore, president and CEO of Scotian Gold.

"This significant expansion and modernizing of the facility provides the needed infrastructure to move our industry forward."

METRO HALIFAX

Bus riders exposed to TB
Officials are looking for 27 people who were exposed to tuberculosis during a Greyhound bus trip from Toronto to Detroit in late August. The Ontario Health Ministry said it has been aware of the incident for "quite a while" and publicized it in hopes of finding the 27 passengers who left the bus in Windsor, Ont. REUTERS

Canada



Wanted, $10,000 reward

The Canadian Bankers Association is offering a $10,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of a man Toronto police have dubbed the Exchange Bandit. Police suspect that one man has robbed more than 26 financial institutions in Ontario since 2003. REUTERS

Youth urged to vote today

Election 2008

YOUTH VOTER DAY In a bid to get more young people to vote in the election, young members of the Green and Liberal parties are urging peers to cast their ballots today — in the first advance poll, when there will be shorter lineups and less pressure.

Dubbing today Youth Voter Day on posters and flyers, organizers say they hope students will find the whole process of voting less intimidating by doing it early, said Katie Gibbs, co-chair of the Young Greens, which proposed the idea that has drawn the support of the Young Liberals of Canada.

"Students are rarely on the voter list, so sometimes it takes a few minutes for them to provide the right identification when they go to vote, and they will be less rushed at an advance poll which is less crowded," said Gibbs.

Campaigns ignore central Canada, say McGuinty, Charest

ECONOMY Standing with Quebec counterpart Jean Charest, Premier Dalton McGuinty said the federal election campaign is ignoring central Canada's manufacturing crisis with a "sit on your hands" attitude to thousands of lost jobs.

The two premiers, whose provinces are home to the country's biggest concentration of factories hard-hit by the economic slowdown and high dollar, expressed frustration with the lack of attention as the Oct. 14 vote approaches.



Dalton McGuinty

Despite federal Liberal Leader Stéphane Dion's new promise to bolster the economy within 30 days of being elected — which both premiers welcomed — McGuinty said no federal party is taking the issue "seriously enough."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Marching for rights

Protesters take to Toronto streets to defend migrants

More than 100 protesters yesterday marched down the middle of Toronto's Yonge St. to support Isabel Garcia, an asylum seeker who has gone into hiding in the city to avoid being deported.

Garcia, who fled an abusive husband in 2005, brought the YWCA and Amnesty International to a Queen's Park news conference before the march. They were among more than 120 human rights and women's groups supporting the migrant rights group No One is Illegal in presenting a list of demands for migrant rights to the federal government.

No One Is Illegal had asked all four federal parties to respond. NDP MP Olivia Chow, the immigration critic, and Green candidate Grace Yogaretnam gave written support and turned up for the news conference. The Liberals promised a reply in seven days. The Tories did not respond.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

List of demands

- Immediately stop all deportation orders against women and children facing deportation who are trying to escape violence.
- Order Canada Border Services and local police to treat shelters and settlement centres as off-limits for arrests.
- Create the Refugee Appeal Division to hear refugee board negative decisions.
- Guarantee a consistent and knowledgeable immigration system to deal with women trying to escape violence.
- Give temporary foreign workers, particularly nannies, permanent residence status upon arrival.

News in brief

ALBERTA People in Edson, Alta., have altered their daily routines while police search for the man who killed a 14-year-old girl in broad daylight on the weekend, CBC News Online reports. The community's three schools are keeping doors locked all day and children have no outdoor recess.

REVIEW A review of old shaken-baby deaths should be undertaken nationally, not just in Ontario, because it's likely others across the country have been convicted of injuring or killing children based on faulty science, says a prominent advocate for the wrongly convicted.

OTTAWA The city will study a system to license its private landlords, despite a caution from its bylaw department and over the objections of property owners.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Man dead after midday shooting

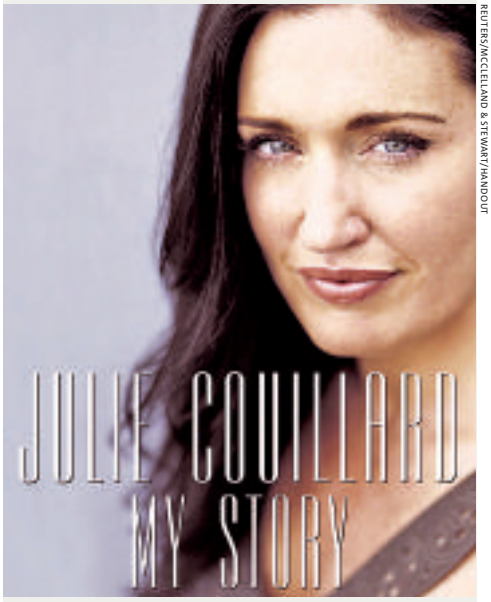
VANCOUVER A man died in hospital yesterday following a midday shooting in the underground parking lot at a Vancouver mall.

Police said the shooting at 2:09 p.m. was likely gang-related. Witnesses at the mall reported hearing 10 to 20 gunshots and two suspects were seen fleeing the parking lot on foot.

METRO CANADA

www.peterkelly.ca

Politics Couillard's tell-all



REUTERS/MCCLELLAND & STEWART/HANDOUT

Julie Couillard says her tell-all memoir, pictured, painting a scathing portrait of ex-boyfriend Maxime Bernier is about re-establishing her credibility, but adds she isn't surprised the former cabinet minister is calling her allegations crazy, CBC News Online reports. The book will be released Monday in Quebec.



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Alberta playground built in a day
150 Home Depot volunteers, local community association volunteers and City of Calgary volunteers helped build a playground in a day in the community of Arbour Lake. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Beetles may hold key to new antibiotics

STUDY The pine beetles that are massacring forests across the continent may soon prove a boon to human health, a new study in the prestigious journal Science suggests.

The exotic bacteria and fungi that the destructive pests carry on their bodies could prove a treasure trove in the search for new antibiotic medications, the study's authors argue.

"No one has ever looked where we're looking and that is what I think is important," says study co-author Jon Clardy, a biological chemist and the Hsien Wu and Daisy Yen Wu Professor at the Harvard Medical School in Cambridge, Mass.

The researchers looked at the Southern Pine Beetle, a close relative of the Mountain Pine variety that is killing off vast tracts of British Columbia's forests. These beetles burrow into the bark of the coniferous trees where they lay eggs and produce larvae that feed on the plant's life-giving outer layer.

The study found this process was far more complex than originally thought; the beetle and its tree-destroying offspring are also dependent on a pair of microbes to survive.

"No one has ever looked where we're looking and that is what I think is important."
Jon Clardy, co-author

These microbes — an antibiotic-producing bacterium and a fungus — are born within the mother beetle and injected into the tree. The microscopic fungus must interact with the tree bark before the implanted larvae can use it for food, said Cameron Currie, an evolutionary biologist at the University of Wisconsin and a study co-author.

The "beneficial fungi," however, are vulnerable to a second fungal species, also carried on the mother beetle that can kill off the former, Currie says.

But this second fungus is kept in check by a third microbe — the antibiotic bacterium.

It is this bacterium, first described in the Science study, which will surely peak the interest of pharmaceutical researchers, Currie says. Because while the specific bacterial compound of the Southern Pine Beetle may have no application to microbes that attack humans, there are thousands upon thousands of beetle species crawling the earth.

If each uses a similar antimicrobial strategy to survive, the insects could represent a vast source for new medications, Clardy says.

The B.C. forests ministry estimated some 13.5 million hectares of pine stands had been killed or infected by the mountain pine beetle in 2007. Researchers say the bacteria found on the pine beetle could also give forestry scientists a new target for an effective pesticide that would specifically attack the insect.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Beetle juice

- An antibiotic-producing bacteria and a fungus are born within the mother beetle and injected into the tree. The microscopic fungus must interact with the tree bark before larvae can use it for food, says study co-author Cameron Currie.

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CITY CENTRE PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

Advance voting begins today

Advance voting for the Oct. 14 federal election begins today, and continues Saturday and Monday. Advance polls are open from noon to 8 p.m. across the country. **ELECTIONS CANADA**

Election 2008

Harper goes on offensive

Conservative leader jabs back at rivals during English leaders' debate

A more assertive Prime Minister Stephen Harper pushed back at his four political rivals last night, charging that their prescriptions for the economy would sink Canada into recession.

For the second night in a row, Harper faced the country's other party leaders around an oval table and was battered by accusations his conservative economic philosophy was too close to Washington's.

In contrast to Wednesday's French-language debate, the Conservative leader didn't hold back his jabs. He accused Liberal Leader Stéphane Dion of "panicking," and moved to distance himself from the economic policies of U.S. President George W. Bush.

"We have not been following the same policies of the United States. The economic and financial mess in the United States is disastrous," Harper said. "The policies have been irresponsible. We've made very different choices in Canada."

On a day when Toronto's stock exchange plunged 814 points, falling below the 11,000 mark for the first time in more than two years, the economic focus took on heightened meaning for leaders and voters.



TOM HANSON/REUTERS

NDP Leader Jack Layton gestures during last night's English leaders' debate in Ottawa.

Even the section devoted to the environment was talked about in economic terms.

Dion, NDP Leader Jack Layton and Bloc Québécois Leader Gilles Duceppe sat on one side, a united front bolstered by Green Leader Elizabeth May, who flanked Harper on the other side of the table.

All four ganged up on Harper on the environment, criminal law reform and controversial cuts to arts programming as moderator Steve Paikin worked hard to police the debate.

But it was the economy that dominated the discussion — and laid bare the political tensions.

Harper slammed Dion's call in the French debate the night before for emergency economic meetings of top economists, financial oversight agencies and first ministers to chart a way through the economic slowdown.

"What leaders have to do is have a plan and not panic. Last night, Stéphane, you panicked, you came on the set and announced a whole new economic plan in the middle of the national debate," Harper said.

Dion countered that Harper had "nothing to propose. Doing nothing is not an option."

Opposition leaders accused Harper of turning a blind eye to the economic turmoil and the toll it is taking on Canadians in the form of lost jobs and depleted pensions.

Harper said he recognizes it is "terrible" for families who are losing jobs. "I've been between jobs, I understand that. But what we have to do as leaders is make sure we have a plan to create jobs."

May, who had won a crucial seat at the table despite the fact the Green party has not elected an MP to the House of Commons, unleashed a trademark volley, criticizing Harper for being the only party not to produce a full platform so far in the campaign. "You've offered nothing up. Where's your platform?"

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Watch what happens behind-the-scenes at a leaders' debate at metronews.ca/election

Debate quick hits

Highlights from last night's federal election debate:

Heated Exchange: NDP Leader Jack Layton baits Prime Minister Stephen Harper on the economy, saying he either doesn't care or he's incompetent, adding, "Where's the platform, under the sweater?" You could almost see the steam escape from Harper's ears.

Most Long-Winded Answer: Pick one.

Dirtiest Shot: Harper tries to say he's the only one who has never used private health care. Cries of "cheap shot" go around the table as Layton had hernia surgery at the Shouldice Clinic in the 1990s.

Left Out In The Cold: Bloc Québécois Leader Gilles Duceppe, who had nothing to gain or lose in this debate.

Best Dressed: Duceppe in his blue pinstripe suit.

Most Polite: Green party Leader Elizabeth May by far. The other leaders, especially Layton, often came off as angry and hyperbolic. Her poise raised the bar.

Worst Mistake: Harper to May after she calls his environmental policies a fraud, "You learned how to say that in French last night." So much for the sweater-wearing nice guy.

Knockout Blow: Duceppe nails Harper on wanting to send Canadian soldiers to Iraq in 2003, forcing him to admit that it would have been a U.S.-led error.

BRIAN TOWIE
METRO CANADA



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Vote

Greens, Grits team up for youth

PARTIES In a bid to get more young people to vote in the election, young members of the Green and Liberal parties are urging peers to cast their ballots today — in the first advance poll, when there will be shorter lineups and less pressure.

Dubbing today Youth Voter Day on posters and flyers, organizers say they hope students will find the whole process of voting less intimidating by doing it early, said Katie Gibbs, co-chair of the Young Greens, which proposed the idea and has drawn the support of the Young Liberals of Canada.

Fewer than one-quarter of Canadians younger than 25 vote, and of those getting their first chance because they just turned 18, that falls even lower to one in five.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

News in brief

POLL The chances of the Conservatives turning their minority into a majority appear to be diminishing as candidates enter the final stretch of a campaign for the Oct. 14 election, according to one poll released yesterday. The Ekos poll showed the Conservatives at 34 per cent support among decided voters, with the Liberals well behind at 25 per cent. The New Democrats were at 19 per cent. The Ekos automated telephone survey polled 3,428 decided voters Monday through Wednesday with a margin of error of 1.7 percentage points, 19 times out of 20. **REUTERS**

11 days remain until the 2008 Canadian federal election

Did you know?
Voter turnout for the 2006 federal general election (64.7 per cent) marked an increase of 3.8 per cent over the 2004 general election, which was the lowest since 1896; turnout was 64.1 per cent in 2000, 67 per cent in 1997 and 69.6 per cent in 1993. **ELECTIONS CANADA**

Election Tour Canada

Highlights of the week's election campaign from Metro newsrooms across the nation

HALIFAX

The Atlantic Liberal caucus launched its plan for the region this week in Halifax, and the green they were offering wasn't for Mother Nature. The party had lots of goodies for students: 300,000 more student bursaries, a six-month to two-year interest-free grace period for student loans, and guaranteed minimum loans for everyone, no matter what their income. Of course, that only works if they win. Meanwhile, retired justice Merlin Nunn entered the political fray, blasting the Conservatives' call for longer jail terms for young offenders. Nunn is the judge who wrote the report on Archie Billard and the youth justice system in Nova Scotia, so he might have a clue what he's talking about.

MONTREAL

On Wednesday, a Montreal newspaper published excerpts of Julie Couillard's book, My Life, about her past relationship with ex-foreign affairs minister Maxime Bernier, who is running again in Beauce, near Quebec City. Although Couillard is talking about a man who referred to Stephen Harper as a "Pepsi drinker" and who asked her to throw top-secret documents in the garbage, Beauce voters still seem to be rooting for Bernier. Bernier denied all the allegations on Wednesday, saying his only mistake was to go out with Couillard.

OTTAWA

From glad-handing in the safe Aylmer riding of Gatineau, to visiting the specialty-nursing program at Algonquin College, Liberal Leader Stéphane Dion made the capital the focus of his election campaign to start last week. But the real spotlight shined on Ottawa Wednesday and last night, when the televised leaders' debates — featuring Green Party Leader Elizabeth May for the first time ever — overtook the National Arts Centre. There was a festive atmosphere as Greens rallied among other political supporters outside the NAC to greet May as she arrived for the debates, and at nearby pubs afterwards, where local Green candidates, volunteers and supporters had rented space to hold Survivor-style TV parties to watch the debates together — complete with decorations and people dressing up to the Green theme.

TORONTO

Bob Rae, Liberal MP and incumbent for Toronto Centre, alleged Prime Minister Stephen Harper, who led the opposition in 2003, plagiarized a pro-Iraq war speech from then-Australian prime minister John Howard. One could argue the move was a stab at solid Conservative support going into the debate, but the latest poll numbers suggest the allegation had little to no effect, despite the story making international headlines. NDP Leader Jack Layton unveiled his ambitious and expensive platform in Toronto on Sunday. His $18-billion plan includes rolling back corporate tax cuts, a monthly child-benefits cheque of $400, and $400 million a year from federal gas taxes applied to public transit. This last proposal might just be music to the ears of riders on the TTC — a system so plagued by frequent delays it has earned itself the handle "Take The Car."

CALGARY

Calgary Northeast Independent conservative candidate Roger Richard was ordered to change his signs and pamphlets by an Alberta Court of Queen's Bench judge who said they too closely resembled Conservative Party of Canada candidate Devinder Shory's signs, which could confuse voters. Former Liberal prime minister Paul Martin and prized Liberal candidate Bob Rae will be visiting the city today in an effort to bolster support.

EDMONTON

Things were getting hot in Edmonton's eastern suburbs as NDP candidate Brian Labelle railed against a Sherwood Park Chamber of Commerce forum that charges candidates $220 to participate. The chamber in the community of 60,000 on Edmonton's eastern boundary defended the fee as necessary to cover costs. Labelle — on voters' radar since his dad was convicted of threatening to kill Premier Ed Stelmach's cows — said he wouldn't participate if he had to pay. The controversy was defused when an anonymous donor volunteered to foot the bill. There was no word on whether the chamber would continue its practice of charging candidates for the privilege of participating in a debate.

VANCOUVER

Jack Layton had to defend another B.C. NDP candidate this week after the Liberals brought to light a year-old radio interview where New Democrat Bev Colins said she believes the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks were the result of a conspiracy. She has since issued a statement saying she now believes terrorists were behind the attacks.

Women's groups call for action on human rights

Refugee and women's activists are calling for an immediate stay on deportation orders against immigrant women trying to stay in Canada as a sanctuary against violence.

Amnesty International and the YWCA joined the immigrant rights group No One Is Illegal yesterday to demand the federal parties take a stand on an immigration system that they say doesn't live up to Canada's own policies of human rights protection.

"Canada was one of the first countries to recognize" violence against women as grounds for a refugee claim, said the YWCA's Ann Dector. "We honour that on paper but not in practice."

One arm of the Immigration and Refugee Board has guidelines about women asking for refugee status because of domestic violence, but not all parts of the system follow that, said Dector.

The New Democrats and the Green party sent letters of support to the campaign. The Liberals promised a response in seven days. The Tories haven't replied.

The campaign is also calling for: A clear policy to stop federal or local authorities from going into shelters to hand over deportation orders.

"We know of a number of instances where women have been arrested, detained and deported" while in shelters, said Cindy Cowan, who organized the news conference.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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"Stephen Harper, Stéphane Dion and Jack Layton are looking pretty stale, which makes Elizabeth May a welcome addition. As any chef will tell you, a little bit of vinegar brightens up the vegetables."



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12

Hayek campaigns to wipe out tetanus

Actress Salma Hayek appealed yesterday to mothers to support a global campaign to eliminate tetanus, which kills a newborn baby every three minutes in a poor country. REUTERS

World

VP candidates clash

Most barbs aimed at presidential hopefuls

Republican Sarah Palin and Democrat Joe Biden clashed on the economy and Iraq during a lively but polite debate last night, and aimed most criticism at their rivals at the top of the ticket.

In the only vice-presidential debate ahead of the Nov. 4 election, Biden accused Republican presidential contender John McCain of being "out of touch" on the economic crisis and said he was "no maverick" on crucial issues facing Americans.

Folksy

- Palin frequently displayed the folksy style that has become a favourite target of late-night comics. "Aw, say it ain't so, Joe," she told Biden at one point, adding a "dog-gone it" for good measure.

Palin said Democratic White House candidate Barack Obama was too partisan to work across party lines to accomplish change and was waving a "white flag of surrender" in Iraq.

With all eyes on Palin in her national debut in an unscripted format, the Alaska governor turned in a steady and aggressive performance that featured repeated attacks on Obama and pledges she and McCain would work for the middle-class.

Biden pledged he and Obama would end the war. Obama is an early critic of the Iraq war who has called for a 16-month timeline to withdraw U.S. troops. REUTERS



JIM YOUNG/REUTERS

Republican nominee Sarah Palin and Democratic nominee Joe Biden chat after the vice-presidential debate last night at Washington University in St. Louis.

Bad-debt buying process could take weeks to get going: White House

MONEY The White House said yesterday it was "fairly optimistic" the U.S. House of Representatives would pass a $700 billion US financial rescue bill today, but it would likely take "at least weeks" for the Treasury Department to begin buying bad debt.

Passage of the bill would open the way for the rescue measure to be sent to President George W. Bush's desk to be signed into law.

"We feel fairly optimistic that we have a good chance for a successful vote tomorrow," White House spokesman Tony Fratto told reporters.

The Senate passed a revised $700 billion bailout plan on Wednesday night. REUTERS

More fraud charges

- The U.S. will bring more charges as warranted in its probe of corporate fraud in the collapse of the mortgage industry, Deputy Attorney General Mark Filip said yesterday.

EU rescue fund plan rejected

ECONOMY The European Central Bank's chief and the chairman of euro zone finance ministers sided with Germany yesterday in rejecting any need for a European rescue fund for banks suffering from the global financial crisis.

The announcement put an end to uncertainty about a meeting Paris has pushed for, due to disagreements among the main European Union governments on the right response to the deepening credit crunch.

French President Nicolas Sarkozy is set to host a summit on the global financial crisis with EU leaders tomorrow. REUTERS

News in brief

ATTACKS Suicide bombers hit Shiite worshippers as they gathered for prayers in Baghdad yesterday, killing 16 and wounding nearly 60, officials said.

HEALTH An estimated 1.1 million Americans have the AIDS virus , the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said yesterday. REUTERS

Casual dining restaurants hit by credit woes
Casual dining companies that boomed during good U.S. economic times are now caught between cash-strapped consumers and a tight financing environment, and are slashing U.S. expansion plans and looking to overseas growth instead. REUTERS

Business

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EDITOR: FERMIN DESOUZA, FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

THE DAILY BUSINESS BUZZ

Keith's birthday celebrations: The man behind Nova Scotia's favourite beer, Alexander Keith, is the focus of nationwide festivities this weekend, as fans celebrate his 213th birthday on Oct. 5. Nova Scotia Tourism is promoting its website, novascotia.com, on specially marked cases of Keith's beer, and an in-case contest offering a trip to a birthday bash on Citadel Hill.

N.S. credit rating upgraded: Nova Scotia's credit rating has been upgraded to positive from stable by bond rating agency DBRS. It said the province has had success in reducing its debt-to-GDP ratio to 35 per cent from 50 per cent 10 years ago. Nova Scotia did so through payments funded by offshore royalty money, as well as tight budgeting processes, and improvements in debt structure.

Investment firm goes to court: PricewaterhouseCoopers has initiated civil contempt of court proceedings against relatives of Quintin Spongle, head of investment firm Jabez Financial Services Inc. The firm took more than $3 million US from Nova Scotians. Spongle's wife and parents were ordered to turn over assets allegedly bought with funds earned through Jabez.

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Commodities sink TSX

North American stock markets fell in another bloodbath yesterday as anxious investors looked temporarily past a monster bailout package for Wall Street, focusing instead on how the financial crisis was ready tinder for an U.S. recession and a global slowdown.

But losses on Toronto's main index largely eclipsed those on Wall Street as heavily-weighted raw-materials and energy stocks suffered punishing losses.

Analysts said investors are increasingly worried that America's economic anguish could mar global growth and in turn, demand for commodities.

"The Canadian market always gets hit harder when commodities go down because we're a commodity-driven economy," said Research Capital Corp. analyst Barry Allan.

Energy, metals and agricultural commodities make up more than half Canada's exports. The United States buys about three quarters of the total.

The S&P/TSX composite index fell 813.97 points, or about seven per cent, to close at 10,900.54; its biggest drop since Oct. 25, 2000.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Crisis Sarkozy on finance offence



REUTERS/PHILIPPE WOJAZER

France's President Nicolas Sarkozy delivers a speech at the business and financial outlook for the written press industry at the Elysée Palace in Paris yesterday.

We need tax credit lifeline: Manufacturers

MANUFACTURING Canada's largest trade and industry association, Canadian Manufacturers and Exporters (CME), called for more government support for the country's battered manufacturing sector.

Jayson Myers, an economist and president of the CME, said yesterday that the economy is at risk if a competitive manufacturing base cannot be maintained in Canada, adding that the industry is riding on commodity and pricing bubbles that cannot last.

He said government could help by making permanent a temporary allowance to write off technology investments, as well as giving tax credits for research and development, training and wealth development. REUTERS

Business in brief

ENERGY Already struggling with increased costs at oilsands projects, the energy industry now also faces tighter environmental controls as political parties respond to green concerns leading up to the fall election, analysts say.

TELECOM Nokia launched its free music package and first touch-screen phone yesterday, challenging Apple's dominance of the digital music market and its iPhone. The 5800 Xpressmusic will likely be available for free with a contract. REUTERS

METRO Halifax

3260 Barrington Street, Suite 102
Halifax, NS B3K 0B5
Tel: 902-444-4444
Fax: 902-422-5610

Advertising: 902-421-5824
adinfohalifax@metronews.ca
Editorial:
metrohalifaxinfo@metronews.ca
Distribution inquiries:
halifax_distribution@metronews.ca
metro_inquiries@metronews.ca
halifaxletters@metronews.ca

Local:
Publisher, Greg Lutes
Managing Editor, Rachel Boomer
rachel.boomer@metronews.ca
Marketing Manager, Christina Edwards
Sales Manager, Dianne Curran
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NHL Preview

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Kovalev the Habs' X-factor

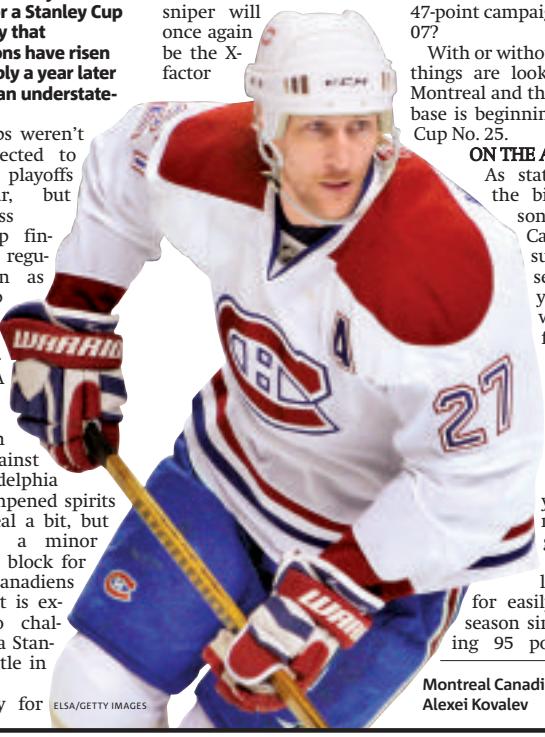
Canadiens hope mercurial forward can pull off another solid season

Heading into the 2007-08 season the Montreal Canadiens were expected to be a few years away from contending for a Stanley Cup title. To say that expectations have risen considerably a year later would be an understatement.

The Habs weren't even expected to make the playoffs last year, but nonetheless wound up finishing the regular season as the top seed in the Eastern Conference. A second-round postseason exit against the Philadelphia Flyers dampened spirits in Montreal a bit, but that was a minor stumbling block for a young Canadiens squad that is expected to challenge for a Stanley Cup title in 2008-09.

The key for Montreal last year was the excellent season turned in by enigmatic winger Alexei Kovalev and the veteran sniper will once again be the X-factor for the Habs. Will Kovalev be the player who scored 84 points a year ago or will he revert to the lows of his 47-point campaign in 2006-07?

With or without Kovalev, things are looking up in Montreal and the rabid fan base is beginning to smell Cup No. 25.



ELSA/GETTY IMAGES

Montreal Canadiens forward Alexei Kovalev

ON THE ATTACK

As stated above, the biggest reason for the Canadiens' surprising season a year ago was that few people expected Kovalev to return to his dominant form.

The 35-year-old notched 35 goals and 49 assists last season for easily his best season since recording 95 points with Pittsburgh in the 2000-01 campaign.

Montreal's top-scoring centre last season was 25-year-old Tomas Plekanec, who had a breakout year in 2007-08, finishing second on the Habs with 69 points (29 goals, 40 assists).

The Canadiens could use rising star Andrei Kostitsyn to play opposite Kovalev on the left wing. The 23-year-old Belarusian made a big leap in his development last year with 26 goals and 27 helpers for Montreal.

Andrei's younger brother, right wing Sergei Kostitsyn, also played in 52 games for the Habs last season and recorded 27 points (9g, 18a).

ON DEFENCE

The Montreal defence will be largely unchanged from last season and the Habs hope that means Andrei Markov will have the same type of year he did in 2007-08.

Markov was left with the role of Montreal's top defencemen after Sheldon Souray opted to sign with Edmonton in the summer of 2007. The Russian filled those shoes both on offence and defence, steadying the Montreal blue-line while posting career bests in goals (16), points (58) and games played (82).

IN THE CREASE

GM Bob Gainey took perhaps the biggest gamble of the 2007-08 season when he opted to trade starting goaltender Cristobal Huet at the deadline, thus leaving a then 20-year-old rookie Carey Price as the primary option for the upcoming playoffs.

Price played well down the stretch for the Habs and ended the season with a 24-12-3 record to go along with a solid 2.56 goals against average and .920 save percentage.

WHEN ALL IS SAID AND DONE

Last year wasn't a fluke, the Habs just developed quicker than most pundits expected. The Canadiens won't have the element of surprise on their side this year, but when you are blessed with speed, skill and youth, that shouldn't really matter. Expect Montreal to challenge for the No. 1 seed in the East once again and don't be shocked if the team wins it all.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Crosby leads crop of Nova Scotian NHLers

MATTHEW WUEST
matthew.wuest@metronews.ca

Nova Scotians slated to start the season in the NHL.

• **ERIC BOULTON**, Middle Sackville, forward, Atlanta Thrashers ($600,000): He has spent seven full seasons in the NHL as a hard-nosed, up-and-down winger, and was re-signed in the summer for that purpose.

• **SIDNEY CROSBY**, Cole Harbour, forward, Pittsburgh Penguins ($9 million): He is making big money now that his entry-level contract is done. He will look to shake off last season's injuries and make a run at a scoring title.



DAVE SANDFORD/GETTY IMAGES

Pittsburgh Penguins superstar Sidney Crosby of Cole Harbour, scores on Vesa Toskala of the Toronto Maple Leafs during a pre-season match-up.

• **JODY SHELLEY**, Yarmouth, forward, San Jose Sharks ($725,000): The former Halifax Mooseheads captain flourished after a trade to San Jose last season, but needs to earn his ice time after a coaching change.

• **JAMES SHEPPARD**, Lower Sackville, forward, Minnesota Wild ($850,000): He set Minnesota's rookie record last season by appearing in 78 games. Now, his goal is to improve upon his 19-point output.

• **JON SIM**, New Glasgow, forward, New York Islanders ($1 million): He played only two games last season due to a torn ACL, but was getting a pre-season look on the Islanders' top line with Doug Weight and Bill Guerin.

• **COLIN WHITE**, New Glasgow, defenceman, New Jersey Devils ($3 million): The Devils don't have much depth on their blue line, but White, a tough, defensive stalwart and seven-year veteran, holds the unit together.

OTHERS TO NOTE: G Olaf Kolzig, former Dartmouth resident (Tampa Bay Lightning); F Sean Avery, former Cole Harbour resident (Dallas Stars).

Mooseheads alumni make mark on NHL

MATTHEW WUEST
matthew.wuest@metronews.ca

Following is a look at former Halifax Mooseheads who are slated to play in the NHL this season.



Giguere

• **JEAN-SEBASTIEN GIGUERE**, goaltender, Anaheim Ducks ($5.5 million): The former Conn Smythe winner and Stanley Cup champ is entering his eighth season as the Ducks starter and is pivotal to their success.

• **MILAN JURCINA**, defenceman, Washington Capitals ($912,500): Jurcina and his booming shot are expected to fit into the Capitals' top-six rotation.

• **PASCAL LECLAIRE**, goaltender, Columbus Blue Jackets ($3 million): He will look to pick up where he left off last season, posting sparkling numbers (nine shutouts, 2.25 GAA) that were among the NHL's best.

• **ALEXANDRE PICARD**, defenceman, Ottawa Senators ($750,000): He has been traded twice in the past year, from Philadelphia to Tampa Bay to Ottawa, but is expected to see regular ice time with the Senators.



Tanguay

• **ALEX TANGUAY**, forward, Montreal Canadiens ($5.375 million): Tanguay's skill and offensive creativity — stifled somewhat with Mike Keenan's Calgary Flames — are expected to be a perfect fit in Montreal.

• **JAKUB VORACEK**, forward, Columbus Blue Jackets ($875,000): The star of Halifax's past two seasons has all but secured a spot on Columbus's top two lines and could emerge as one of the NHL's top rookies.

• **PETR VRANA**, forward, New Jersey Devils ($475,000): After three seasons on the farm, Vrana has had a good pre-season and is close to earning a roster spot.

OTHER: Jody Shelley.

NHL Preview

Wings on track for a repeat

YorkReport



Marty York
marty.york@metronews.ca

Veteran Mats Sundin will be relaxing in Sweden, goaltender Roberto Luongo is adding a captaincy to his portfolio and that old familiar theme song (da-da-da-da-da-dah) has jumped from Hockey Night in Canada to TSN.

Yet, with the NHL poised to launch its 2008-09 season this weekend, some things haven't changed a bit.

The Detroit Red Wings, for instance, remain the clear-cut class of the NHL and the consensus is that they'll breeze to a successful defence of their Stanley Cup championship.

"I don't see anything tripping up the Wings," HNIC analyst Don Cherry said. "I see no weakness at all on this team. There's nothing wrong with them. If you're betting, you've got to bet on Detroit to win it all again this year."

Of course, if you bet on the Wings, you're taking the favourite. Oddsmakers have listed them as the cream of the NHL's crop, at 7-to-2. Even star forward Marian Hossa is gambling on the Wings, in reality, because he left millions of dollars on the free-agent table to play with Detroit this season. Ditto for Dan Cleary. Combine these gunners with superstars such as Nicklas Lidstrom, Henrik Zetterberg and Pavel Datsyuk and it's simple to understand why the Wings are generally perceived as the team to beat. They have scorers and grit on every line. They have an outstanding defence corps. They've been there and they've done it. And they should do it again.

But can any of the Canadian teams threaten them?

Super Luongo

- From Yahoo NHL expert Ross McKeon: "Hate to hit on the obvious, but it looks like Roberto Luongo is going to have to be Superman to keep the Canucks afloat."

Perhaps the Montreal Canadiens. Celebrating their 100th anniversary, the Habs aren't ranked too far in arrears of the Wings, at 8-to-1.

"Montreal has assembled a massive amount of young talent," TSN analyst Pierre McGuire said. "They have an unbelievable amount of defensive wealth. And (Montreal goaltender Carey) Price has the ultimate opportunity to be one of the most dominant players in the game. The Canadiens could be great this year."

As for the rest of Canada's teams, well, not so much.

The Edmonton Oilers have a nifty blend of youth and experience and could push for a division title but McGuire warns of a potential controversy at goaltender, where veteran Dwayne Roloson isn't pleased as Mathieu Garon's backup.

Oddsmakers list the Oilers' Stanley Cup chances at 20-to-1. The Ottawa Senators, perennial contenders, aren't far behind, at 22-to-1. Then come the Calgary Flames at 25-to-1, the Luongo-led Vancouver Canucks at 44-to-1 and the Sundin-less Toronto Maple Leafs at 100-to-1.

"The Leafs were terrible last season," said Mike Milbury of CBC and NBC, "and I don't see any reason why they'll be better this season. In fact, I think they'll be worse."

Marty York has been a groundbreaking sports columnist and broadcaster in Canada for decades.

Ottawa

- 2007-08: 43-31-8 94 Pts. Seventh in the Eastern Conference.
- **HIGHLY OFFENSIVE:** The Senators had the most goals for (258) in the NHL last season.
- **BIG TOP:** Ottawa's top line of Jason Spezza, Daniel Alfredsson and Dany Heatley combined for a total 115 goals in 2007-'08.
- **NEARING 500:** F Dany Heatley begins the year with 471 regular season points in his career.
- **THE 700 CLUB:** D Chris Phillips is one game shy of 700.
- **VETERAN:** D Luke Richardson will be playing in his 21st NHL season after beginning his career in 1987. The Ottawa native has played more than 1400 games with 35-166-201 points and 2,053 penalty minutes.
- **WHO'S GONE:** Forwards Cory Stillman, Brian McGrattan, Martin Lapointe and Randy Robitaille. Defencemen Mike Commodore, Andrej Meszaros and Wade Redden. Goalie Ray Emery
- **WHO'S NEW:** Defencemen Jason Smith, Filip Kuba, Alexandre Picard. Forwards Jarkko Ruutu and Jesse Winchester. Goaltender Alex Auld.

METRO CANADA

Toronto

- 2007-08: 36-35-11 83 Pts. Twelfth in the Eastern Conference.
- **WITHOUT A CAPTAIN:** Toronto had a decent offensive attack last year, as it was 11th in the NHL with an average of 2.78 goals per game, but the status of their leading scorer and former captain Mats Sundin is in limbo.
- **FIGHTER:** Winger Jason Blake had a trying 2007-08 campaign as he announced last October that he had a highly-treatable form of leukemia. Blake still played in all 82 games and was fourth on Toronto's roster with 52 points (15g, 37a).
- **GETTING DEFENSIVE:** The Leafs defence was awful last year, giving up 3.12 goals per game — an average that was good for 27th in the NHL.
- **SAVING GRACE:** The Leafs acquired Vesa Toskala in a trade last off-season and he impressed with a 33-25-6 record and decent numbers in goals against average (2.74) and save percentage (.904).
- **IN THE END:** Unless Toskala carries the team on his back, Toronto is likely headed for its fourth straight year without a trip to the postseason.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Calgary

- 2007-08: 42-30-10 94 Pts. Seventh in the Western Conference.
- **STEADY DOES IT:** Calgary's captain combines speed, size, skill and toughness and it's a formula that translates into steady production. Jarome Iginla has averaged 40.4 goals per season over the last seven campaigns.
- **INTIMIDATOR:** The 23-year-old Dion Phaneuf is an intimidating presence on the ice, a player who can deliver points as well as crushing bodychecks. Last year, Phaneuf was fourth on the Flames with 60 points and tops on the club with 182 penalty minutes.
- **ON THE DOWN SLIDE?:** Goaltender Miikka Kiprusoff posted a solid record of 39-26-10, but both his goals against average (2.69) and save percentage (.906) were his worst marks since the Flames acquired him early in the 2003-04 season.
- **FINDING THE RIGHT FIT:** If Darryl Sutter and Mike Keenan can come up with the right line combinations the result could be an offence that doesn't solely rely on Iginla for points the Flames could make a deep postseason charge.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Edmonton

- 2007-08: 41-35-6 88 Pts. Ninth in the Western Conference.
- **LATE SURGE** Despite going 14-5-1 in their final 20 games last season, the Oilers missed the playoffs for the second year in a row.
- **THE KIDS:** The Kid Line of Sam Gagner, Andrew Cogliano and Robert Nilsson led the way in the stretch drive. With an encore from that trio, the addition of Eric Cole and Lubomir Visnovsky and the return of Sheldon Souray, Ethan Moreau and Shawn Horcoff from injuries, optimists believe the Oilers will challenge for the Northwest Division title.
- **KEEP AN EYE ON:** The first line of Cole, Horcoff and Ales Hemsky.
- **ONE TO WATCH:** Hemsky. Led the Oilers with 21-50-71 last season. A lot of pundits believe he can be a 90-point player.
- **BURNING QUESTION:** Is Mathieu Garon a legitimate No. 1 stopper?
- **WHO'S GONE:** Matt Greene, Joni Pitkanen, Marty Reasoner, Geoff Sanderson, Jarret Stoll, Raffi Torres.
- **WHO'S NEW:** Erik Cole, Lubomir Visnovsky, Jason Strudwick, Gilbert Brule.

METRO CANADA

Vancouver

- 2007-08: 39-33-10 88 Pts. Eleventh in the Western Conference.
- **"Yeah, but who is going to score goals?":** For the third straight year, that's the main question in Vancouver. There's no easy answer based on what's been assembled over the summer, but GM Mike Gillis believes the move to a more up tempo style of play will result in more scoring.
- **THE BIG 'C':** Roberto Luongo's invisible "C" stands for "cash", as he's been money between the pipes.
- **VETERANS CLUB:** Mattias Ohlund, Willie Mitchell, and Sami Salo anchor a deep blue-line.
- **21 JUMP STREET:** Sophomore Alex Edler will be asked to join the rush more often, as will Kevin Bieksa.
- **TWIN BURNER:** Newcomer Steve Bernier is this year's triplet on the Sedin line.
- **SEEING STARS?:** Pavol Demitra will play with Taylor Pyatt and Mason Raymond, who he says remind him of Keith Tkachuk and Marian Gaborik.
- **BOTTOM LINE:** The Canucks' stingy defence puts them in the dogfight for one of the final three playoff spots in the West.

METRO CANADA

Schedule

Canadiens games for 2008-9

OCTOBER
10 at Buffalo, 8:30
11 at Toronto, 8
13 at Philadelphia, 8
15 Boston, 8:30
18 Phoenix, 8
20 Florida, 8:30
25 Anaheim, 8
28 Carolina, 8:30
30 at Minnesota, 9

NOVEMBER
1 at N.Y. Islanders, 8
7 at Columbus, 8
8 at Toronto, 8
11 Ottawa, 8:30
13 at Boston, 8
15 Philadelphia, 8
16 at St. Louis, 7
18 at Carolina, 8
20 at Ottawa, 8:30
22 Boston, 8
24 N.Y. Islanders, 8:30
26 at Detroit, 8:30
28 at Washington, 8
29 Buffalo, 8

DECEMBER
2 Atlanta, 8:30
4 N.Y. Rangers, 8
6 New Jersey, 8
9 Calgary, 8:30
11 Tampa Bay, 8:30
13 Washington, 8
16 at Carolina, 8
18 Philadelphia, 8:30
20 Buffalo, 8
21 Carolina, 8
27 at Pittsburgh, 8
29 at Florida, 8:30
30 at Tampa Bay, 8:30

JANUARY
2 at New Jersey, 8
4 Florida, 2
7 at N.Y. Rangers, 8:30
8 Toronto, 8:30
10 Washington, 8
13 at Boston, 8
15 Nashville, 8:30
17 at Ottawa, 8
20 at Atlanta, 8
21 at New Jersey, 8
27 at Tampa Bay, 8:30
29 at Florida, 8:30
31 Los Angeles, 4

FEBRUARY
1 Boston, 4
3 Pittsburgh, 8:30
6 at Buffalo, 8:30
7 Toronto, 8
9 at Calgary, 10
11 at Edmonton, 10
13 at Colorado, 10
15 at Vancouver, 11
18 at Washington, 8:30
19 at Pittsburgh, 8
21 Ottawa, 4
24 Vancouver, 8:30
27 at Philadelphia, 8
28 San Jose, 8

MARCH
4 at Buffalo, 8:30
6 at Atlanta, 8:30
8 at Dallas, 7
10 Edmonton, 8:30
12 N.Y. Islanders, 8:30
14 New Jersey, 8
17 N.Y. Rangers, 8:30
19 at Ottawa, 8:30
21 Toronto, 8
24 Atlanta, 8:30
26 Tampa Bay, 8:30
28 Buffalo, 8
31 Chicago, 8:30

APRIL
2 at N.Y. Islanders, 8
4 at Toronto, 8
6 Ottawa, 8:30
7 at N.Y. Rangers, 8
9 at Boston, 8
11 Pittsburgh, 8
(home games in bold)

NHL keeping an eye on Toronto, Anahiem

The NHL will be keeping its eyes on the Toronto Maple Leafs and Anahiem Ducks this season. The Ducks GM Brian Burke is rumoured to be headed to Toronto next season and the league will reportedly be watching for any suspicous dealings this season. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Longoria, Rays a big hit

Rays 6, White Sox 4

Evan Longoria finished 3-for-3 with two home runs and three RBI as Tampa Bay made its postseason debut a winning one, with a 6-4 triumph over the Chicago White Sox in Game 1 of the American League Division Series from Tropicana Field.

Akinori Iwamura was 2-for-4 with an RBI and a run scored for the Rays, who earned the first playoff berth in franchise history by winning the AL East with a 97-65 record.

James Shields (1-0) notched the win after allowing six hits and three runs.

Dewayne Wise hit a three-run homer and Paul Konerko added a solo shot for the White Sox, who had beaten Detroit and Minnesota on Monday and Tuesday, respectively, to reach the postseason for the first time since winning the World Series in 2005.

Game 2 of this best-of-five series is tonight in Tampa Bay.



PIERRE DUCHARME/REUTERS

Tampa Bay Rays' B.J. Upton, right, scores in the fifth inning on an RBI single by teammate Evan Longoria as Chicago White Sox catcher A.J. Pierzynski takes the late throw during Game one of their MLB American League Divisional Series baseball playoffs in St. Petersburg yesterday.

Phillies 5, Brewers 2

The Philadelphia Phillies took a commanding 2-0 lead in the NLDS yesterday as they rode a five run second inning to their 5-2 win over the Milwaukee Brewers.

Shane Victorino hit a two-out, grand slam to lead the way in the second.

Pedro Feliz doubled to left scoring Jayson Werth earlier in the inning.

Phillies starting pitcher Brett Myers struggled early walking three men in the first including one with the bases loaded to hand the Brewers their first run of the game. Myers would settle down though throwing seven innings, allowing two hits and striking out three. Their next game goes Saturday in Milwaukee.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

NBA ref acted alone in betting scandal: Report

TIM DONAGHY The NBA released the results of a review of the league's embattled officiating program yesterday in the wake of the Tim Donaghy scandal.

Donaghy, a former NBA referee, received a 15-month prison sentence for his role in betting on NBA games.

Lawrence B. Pedowitz, a former chief of the Criminal Division in the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York, was appointed by the NBA to review the officiating program and make recommendations.

Following a 14-month investigation, Pedowitz recommended significant changes, but found no evidence of illegal activity by any referees other than Donaghy.

The 116-page report recommended strengthening the NBA's anti-gambling rules, improving the enforcement of these rules and creating a "culture of compliance" among all league and team employees, including through the reorganization of the management of the referee program and the creation of an anonymous hotline for gambling information.



Tim Donaghy

The report also said the league should increase monitoring of games for suspicious activity, and should increase efforts to eliminate the perception of referee bias by making more information available about the referee program and increasing access to the referees by fans and media.

NBA commissioner David Stern has also asked Pedowitz to review the new program at the end of the upcoming season.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Sports in brief

CHELIOS It appears that Red Wings defenceman Chris Chelios' injury is worse than originally anticipated as the three-time Norris trophy winner will miss at least the next six weeks with a fractured bone in his leg. The 46-year-old Chelios sustained the injury while blocking a shot during Tuesday's game against the Canadiens and said it is a deep bruise.

FOOTBALL CFL commissioner Mark Cohon announced yesterday that, effective immediately, the league has set new standards aimed at enhancing player safety including mandatory suspensions for spearing to the helmet, throwing a helmet and violently kicking or punching.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

VANOC tickets on sale

OLYMPICS Tickets for the 2010 Olympics go on sale today but there's no rush.

The purchasing period is spread over the next five weeks.

About 2 million tickets will be available for the Games but major sponsors, international sporting federations and Olympic officials will get 30 per cent of the seats.

The tickets on sale today are available but not guaranteed.

Popular events like hockey and figure skating will likely have more buyers than actual seats and on Nov. 7, VANOC will take all registrations for tickets and go to a lottery for those venues.

775

The cost in Canadian dollars for the men's gold-medal hockey game at the Olympics. tickets cost $775 each. For the women's hockey final, the price is $350.

Each order has a maximum number of 50 tickets and there are event restrictions. For gold-medal hockey, there is a limit of four tickets.

VANOC has also limited the sales to four ticket orders by address and is accepting payment only via Visa, a sponsor of the Games. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Zenit soccer club denies alleged UEFA match fix

MAFIA Zenit St Petersburg have distanced themselves from reports of an alleged attempt by Russian mafia figures to fix last season's UEFA Cup semi-final between the Russian club and Bayern Munich — which Zenit won.

Judicial sources in Spain have said that a Spanish investigating judge had sent recordings purporting to reveal a match-fixing plot to German authorities.

In a statement issued on the club's website Zenit said its performance against Bayern and Rangers spoke for itself and denied any involvement. REUTERS

SCOREBOARD

QMJHL

ATLANTIC DIVISION

	W	L	OT	P
Moncton	6	0	0	12
Cape Breton	7	6	1	12
Acadie-Bathurst	8	5	1	12
Halifax	7	2	5	4
Saint John	7	3	5	4
P.E.I.	5	1	3	3

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	OT	P
Shawinigan	8	6	2	12
Drummondville	7	5	1	11
Victoriaville	8	4	4	8
Lewiston	6	3	3	6

EAST DIVISION

	W	L	OT	P
Quebec	5	1	0	10
Rimouski	5	3	2	6
Chicoutimi	7	3	4	6
Baie-Comeau	6	1	2	5

WEST DIVISION

	W	L	OT	P
Gatineau	3	3	1	7
Montreal	6	3	3	6
Rouyn-Noranda	7	2	3	6
Val-d'Or	0	6	0	0

YESTERDAY'S GAME
Shawinigan 3 Saint John 1

TONIGHT'S GAME
P.E.I. at **Halifax** 8

SATURDAY'S GAME
Halifax at Saint John, 8

SUNDAY'S GAME
Lewiston at Halifax, 5

MLB

AMERICAN LEAGUE
DIVISIONAL SERIES PLAYOFFS
BEST OF FIVE
L.A. Angels vs. Boston
TODAY'S GAME
Boston at L.A. Angels, 10:37
SUNDAY'S GAME
L.A. Angels at Boston, 3:07
(Boston leads series 1-0)
Tampa Bay vs. Chicago W. Sox
YESTERDAY'S GAME
Tampa Bay 6 Chicago 4
TOMORROW'S GAME
Chicago at Tampa Bay, 7:07
SUNDAY'S GAME
Tampa Bay at Chicago, 3:07
(Tampa Bay leads series 1-0)
NATIONAL LEAGUE
DIVISIONAL SERIES PLAYOFFS
BEST OF FIVE
Chicago Cubs vs. L.A. Dodgers
YESTERDAY'S GAME
L.A. Dodgers at Chicago Cubs, 10:37
SATURDAY'S GAME
Chicago Cubs at L.A. Dodgers, 11:07
(Dodgers lead series 1-0)
Philadelphia vs. Milwaukee
YESTERDAY'S GAME
Philadelphia 5 Milwaukee 2
SATURDAY'S GAME
Philadelphia at Milwaukee, 7:37
(Philadelphia leads series 2-0)

NFL

WEEK 5
SUNDAY'S GAMES
Chicago at Detroit, 1
San Diego at Miami, 1
Atlanta at Green Bay, 1
Seattle at N.Y. Giants, 1
Tennessee at Baltimore, 1
Indianapolis at Houston, 1
Kansas City at Carolina, 1
Washington at Philadelphia, 1
Tampa Bay at Denver, 4:05
Cincinnati at Dallas, 4:15
Buffalo at Arizona, 4:15
New England at San Francisco, 4:15
Pittsburgh at Jacksonville, 8:15
MONDAY'S GAME
Minnesota at New Orleans, 8:30

CIS

ATLANTIC CONFERENCE

	W	L	T	PTS
Saint Mary's	4	0	0	8
St. Francis Xavier	2	2	0	4
Mount Allison	1	3	0	2
Acadia	0	4	0	0

SATURDAY'S GAMES
Mount Allison at Acadia, 1
Saint Mary's at St. Francis Xavier, 1

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Moose to play a trio of games
The Halifax Mooseheads play the first of three games in three days tonight at the Metro Centre. They host the P.E.I. Rocket at 7 p.m. and visit the Saint John Sea Dogs tomorrow at 7 p.m. They return home for Sunday's 4 p.m. tilt against the Lewiston Maineiacs. METRO HALIFAX

Pender shows off his cannon

Mooseheads defenceman's hard shot from the point gives team another weapon

MATTHEW WUEST
matthew.wuest@metronews.ca

Justin Pender jokes that he has a problem with his ice time.

"It's almost too much," he says with a laugh.

The 19-year-old over-ager doesn't actually mind, of course, but there is little doubt the Halifax Mooseheads have worked him into the ground through seven games this season.

In less than a year, Pender has gone from depth defenceman and occasional healthy scratch to power-play quarterback, regular penalty killer and No. 1 blue-liner.

Oh yeah, and he leads the team in scoring.

"I was wondering what was going on," laughs teammate Logan MacMillan, who checked the scoring stats while away at the Anaheim Ducks' training camp. "He's got a cannon of a shot and he must be getting them through this year."

MacMillan hits the nail on the head. Pender does have a cannon of a shot, a blast that was clocked with a street-hockey ball at a ridiculous 112 miles per hour this summer.

"I've seen some guys shoot the puck 100 miles per hour and I'd say Justin's would be right around that speed," says Mooseheads head coach Cam Russell, a former NHLer.

"He's got an NHL shot, and we've never had that big howitzer back there firing the puck on the power play."

Pender, who has three goals and four assists, has a fairly straightforward offensive mentality.

"Set it up and fire away, pretty much," he says.

But it's more than just that. The six-foot-four, 210-pound native of St. John's, N.L., has been getting his shot off quicker and with more accuracy than in previous years.

His doubled ice time doesn't hurt, either.

"It's a big jump," Pender says. "It's good for the confidence when they're depending on you for the last minute, power play and penalty kill. I'm just trying to take advantage."

Pender's game is weighted more to the offensive side, but he is holding his own when matched against top-line forwards. He has also cut down on sloppy puck-moving errors that have sometimes been an issue in the past.

Pender is nearly halfway toward cracking last season's career-high of four goals and 12 assists, and it would be no surprise for him to surpass his three-year total of 34 points.

"I don't see why not. It's confidence and opportunity, and he has both right now," Russell says. "The rest is up to him."

For weekend coverage of the Halifax Mooseheads, visit Matthew Wuest's blog at www.metronews.ca/qfiles.

MacMillan to make season debut

Forward expected to give boost to Mooseheads' offence

Logan MacMillan will make his season debut tonight at 7 p.m. when the Halifax Mooseheads host the P.E.I. Rocket.

The 19-year-old forward has been at the Anaheim Ducks' training camp since the start of the season and will provide an instant boost for a team that has a 2-5 record, third-last in the QMJHL, and averages less than three goals per game.

"We're off to a slow start, but talking to the older guys, they said we're a hard-working team," said MacMillan, who had 41 points in 46 games last season. "It's different from the all-skill team we had last year, so it's pretty exciting."

The Ducks' first-round pick in 2006 played in one pre-season game, skating with Samuel Pahlsson and George Parros.

"Those guys know the ropes," MacMillan said. "They made it pretty easy for me and it was a good experience."



RYAN TAPLIN/METRO HALIFAX

Mooseheads defender Justin Pender has seen his ice time double from last season.



Huskies can clinch home-field playoff game with win

The first-place Saint Mary's Huskies (4-0) can secure home-field advantage for their first playoff game with a win against the St. Francis Xavier X-Men (2-2) on Saturday at 2 p.m. in Antigonish. A win guarantees the Huskies will finish either first or second in Atlantic University Sport's football standings. METRO HALIFAX

Schussler leading the way

Huskies fullback a key component to team's rushing offence

The running backs keep changing, but the massive yardage stays the same for the Saint Mary's Huskies.

No team in the country has a better running game since the start of last season, a stunning 3,527 yards — nearly 300 per game — with huge gains going to Jacques Lumbala last year and Allistair Blair, Craig Leger and Devon Jones this year.

The common denominator, however, is fullback Tyler Schussler.

"He's our rock," Huskies head coach Steve Sumarah says. "He's been our constant since he started here, and he has played a massive role in our running game."

Schussler, who is from Kenora, Ont., and entering his fifth year, is a crucial part of a well-oiled engine that includes skilled running backs and a rock-solid offensive line.

The numbers hide his impact. Heading into this Saturday's 2 p.m. road game against the St. Francis Xavier X-Men, the 6-foot-1, 250-pounder has just 33 career carries for 156 yards and three touchdowns, a week's work for Blair or Jones.

"I block and let the running backs do their thing."
Tyler Schussler

But Schussler typically only carries the ball in short-yardage situations — more this year than ever before — and is on the field in two-back sets for blocking purposes.

"My job is mostly blocking and I'd be lying if I told you any different," Schussler admits. "Coach has been nice enough to give me some short-yardage carries this year, but we've got mad depth at running back, and I try to do my part — I block and let the running backs do their thing."

Sumarah describes Schussler as "strong and very, very physical" and says "people take him completely for granted."

Fullback is a position that doesn't earn many headlines — today aside — and Atlantic University Sport doesn't even recognize it with a separate all-star position at season's end.

But maybe it should. Just ask Jones, who was the beneficiary of Schussler's efforts when he ripped off 251 yards last Saturday in the first significant action of his university career.

"Nobody understands how hard it is," Jones says. "The numbers speak for themselves. It wasn't just me running out there. In Canadian ball if you're a running team, you need a fullback, and Schuss is one of the best fullbacks in Canada."

Described as a quiet, consummate teammate by his peers, Schussler is content to remain in the shadows.

"The goal at the beginning of the season isn't to become an all-star or put up numbers," he says. "It's to win a Vanier Cup."



RYAN TAPLIN/METRO HALIFAX

Huskies fullback Tyler Schussler has rushed for 156 yards on 33 carries and three touchdowns, but knows that his primary job is to open holes for the team's running backs.

Injuries pile up for Huskies

AUS FOOTBALL The Saint Mary's Huskies will be without quarterback Nathan Marsman, running back Allistair Blair and receiver Carl Hardwick on Saturday against the St. Francis Xavier X-Men.

Marsman, the Huskies' starting quarterback while Hec Crighton winner Erik Glavic recovers from knee surgery, has a concussion; Blair, the Huskies' top rusher, has a knee injury; and Hardwick, an AUS all-star, has a high ankle sprain. Glavic is out indefinitely. METRO HALIFAX

Sports in brief

CIS FOOTBALL Former Saint Mary's Huskies head coach Blake Nill has helped the Calgary Dinos rise from the ashes. The Dinos, who haven't been ranked nationally since Nill was hired in 2006, have a 3-2 record and earned sixth place in CIS's most recent ranking.

SWIMMING Former Olympic gold medallist Mark Tewksbury will be in Halifax today to speak to local swimmers at Dalplex at 3:15 p.m. Tewksbury won gold in the 100-metre backstroke at the 1992 Olympics. METRO HALIFAX





Suit settled
Bosses at Miramax film studios have settled a lawsuit over the profits from the hit movie Chicago, paying one of the film's producers a reported $9-million US. IMDB.COM

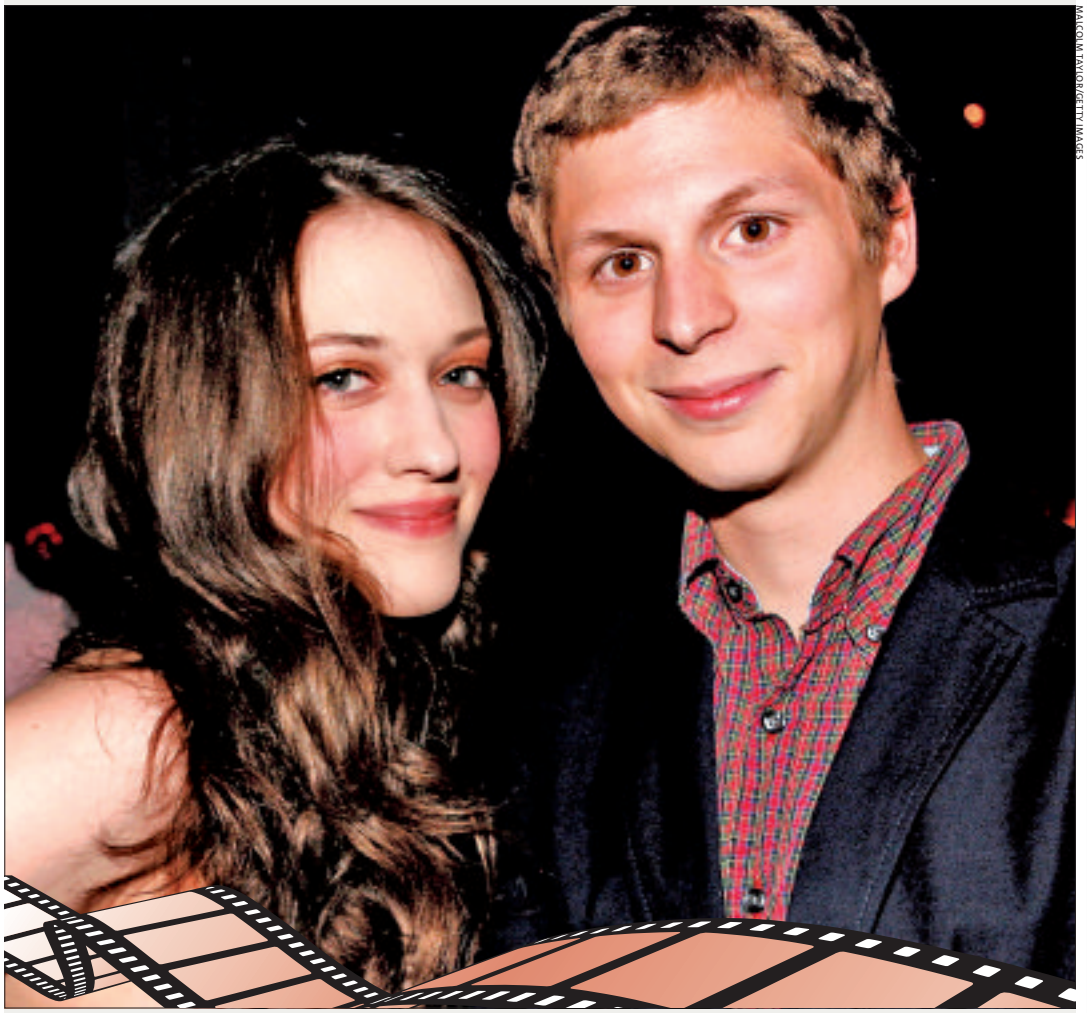
Movies&Entertainment

EDITOR: TINA COSTANZA, TINA.COSTANZA@METRONEWS.CA

Movies

Good kids

Pg 22



MALCOLM TANNOR/GETTY IMAGES

Nick & Norah's Infinite Playlist — starring Michael Cera and Kat Dennings as the title characters — still looks like one of the more virtuous depictions of teen life out there, saying a lot about kids today.

movies Pg 23



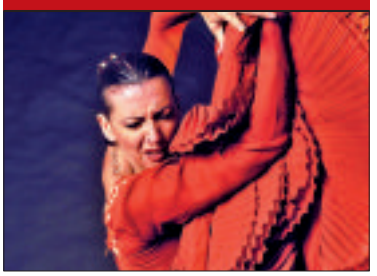
How to Lose Friends loses bite from the original book.

music Pg 27

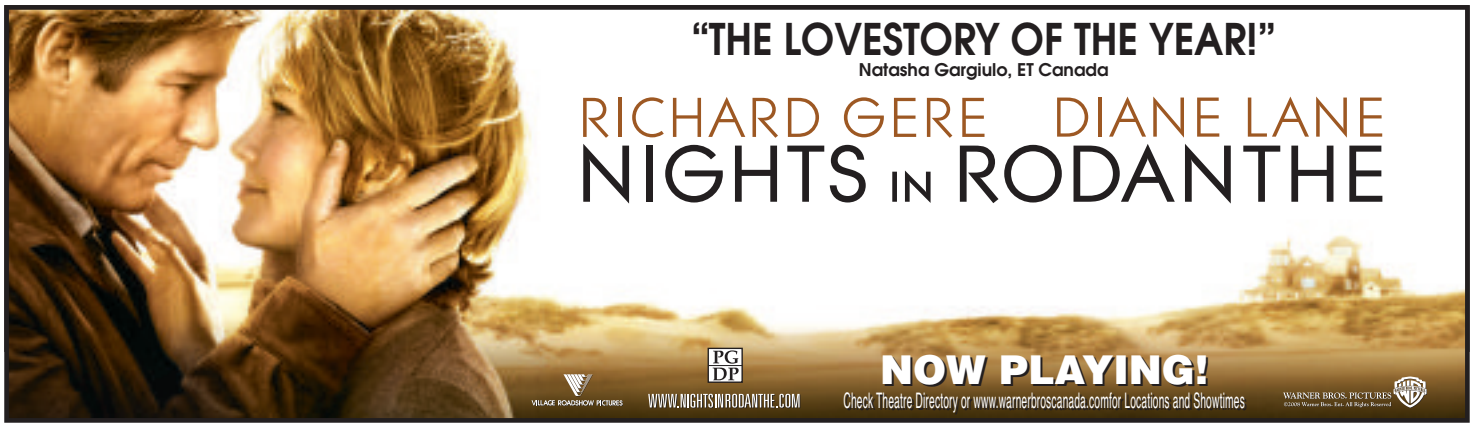


Republican rallies drawing great music from protesters.

going out Pg 30



Dancer says flamenco style growing worldwide.



Movies

🌐🌐🌐🌐🌐 A CLASSIC; 🌐🌐🌐🌐 EXCELLENT; 🌐🌐🌐 GOOD; 🌐🌐 FAIR; 🌐 POOR

SAG seeks strike authority

Film and television actors ratcheted up pressure on Hollywood's major studios Wednesday when negotiators, stalled in labour talks with producers, sought backing to put a strike authorization vote to guild members.

Contract negotiators for the Screen Actors Guild, which is the largest U.S. actors union with some 120,000 members, passed a resolution seeking the endorsement of SAG's national board for guild members to vote on whether to call a work stoppage, which, if it occurred, would be the second halt this year. Late Wednesday, SAG released the resolution passed by its contract negotiating committee, but said it would have no further comment.

The Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers, which represents major studios, shot back with its own statement asking, "Is this really the time for anyone in the entertainment business to be talking about going on strike?" REUTERS

Maher goes for easy shots in Religulous

Religulous

Director: Larry Charles
Stars: Bill Maher
Classification: 14A
Rating: 🌐🌐

RICK MCGINNIS
rick.mcginnis@metronews.ca

For a man who seems altogether proud of his atheism, Bill Maher comes off with an evangelical fervour for his cause by the time Religulous sums itself up, shifting gears from a comic odyssey through the lunatic fringe of true believers to pleading the cause of doubt and secularism with a zeal that itself calls for some satirical response.



Bill Maher faces off with the faithful in his biting documentary, Religulous.

It's hard not to find something to laugh at in the film Maher and director Larry Charles have made. Having persisted throughout the history of mankind, religion has produced more than its share of apparent absurdities, and since Charles and Maher seem mostly interested in shooting fish in a barrel, their subject provides them with a virtual Seaworld of targets.

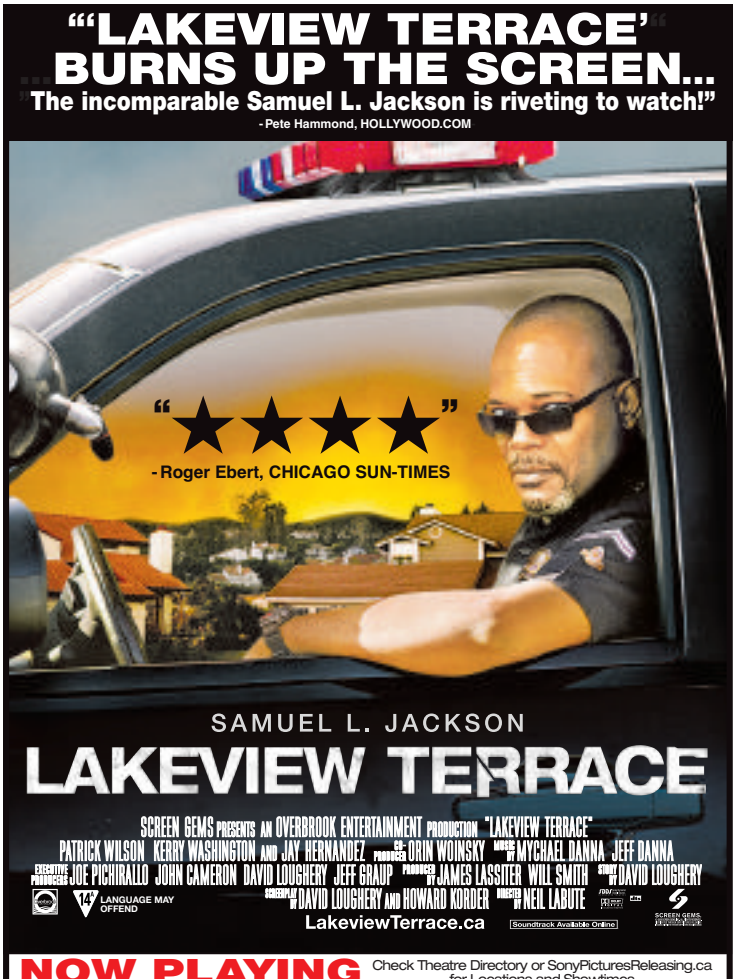
Almost without fail, Maher goes for the easy shots, picking from the usual gallery of greedy American evangelicals through the risible tenets of Mormons and Scientologists before proceeding from the fundamentalist edge of Judaism to the murderous manifestations of Islam. (For some reason, Buddhists, Hindus and Zoroastrians get off scot free.)

To do this, Maher has to work from the presumption that every religion is basically identical and that its most gullible, disingenuous or intolerant practitioners speak for the rest. In Amsterdam, Maher does a shambling interview with the self-appointed head of a Church of Cannabis, who may be the sole priest and parishioner of his faith and who mostly serves to play an unwitting Chong to Maher's Cheech.

He spares his abundant sarcasm with two Catholic priests he meets in Rome, however — the director of the Vatican Observatory provides a useful refutation of creationism, while an elderly padre he meets in St. Peter's Square amuses Maher with a curmudgeonly dismissal of biblical literalism. Maher relies almost exclusively on "gotcha" moments and relentlessly massaged editing of his interviews to make his point, cut with old movies and cornball biblical epics to provide the rimshots for his punch lines.

Since his targets of opportunity are so broadly chosen, almost anyone will find something to laugh at in Religulous, but ultimately Maher is preaching to the choir with an undisguised dishonesty that only the true believers will forgive.





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– Shawn Edwards, FOX-TV



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Who let the dogs out?

Beverly Hills **Chihuahua**

Director: Raja Gosnell
Stars: Drew Barrymore, Andy Garcia
Classification: G
Rating: ⊕⊕

STEVE GOW
for Metro Canada



A pampered pooch becomes a fish out of water when she gets lost in Mexico

REVIEW These days, it seems Hollywood producers are all wondering the same thing: If my dog could speak, what would it say?

Well, Beverly Hills Chihuahua is the latest talking animal flick to heed that query and — according to one cheeky chihuahua at least — the answer is, "Oh no, she didn't!"

Featuring the voices of Drew Barrymore, Andy Garcia and other celebs, Chihuahua is a harmless "tail" (Ha!) about a snooty, rich lapdog that gets lost in Mexico and must journey back to Rodeo Drive.

Along the way, she encounters a mélange of muttering mutts and an annoying animated rat-iguana duo that, in the end, teach us life lessons.

Now, this family outing's not terrible; assembled by Scooby-Doo director Raja Gosnell, the animation integrates well enough with the live action, but the same can't be said for the dialogue.

A simplistic, mediocre script handicaps the film from truly capturing its audiences' imagination, obviously an imperative factor in a talking-dog movie. In fact, it's easier to believably envisage the dollar-signs Andy Garcia must've had for eyeballs when he was offered this gig than it is to consider this set of chatty chihuahuas.

Nick & Norah wry and virtuous

Nick & Norah's Infinite **Playlist**

Director: Peter Sollett
Stars: Michael Cera, Kat Dennings
Classification: PG
Rating: ⊕⊕⊕½

RICK MCGINNIS
rick.mcginnis@metronews.ca

While older critics and viewers won't be able to resist comparing the film to American Graffiti, younger audiences at Nick & Norah's Infinite Playlist might chafe at their presumption.

The filmmakers and studio are really hoping young audiences are willing to embrace the movie as their own and see it. The bad news is that, should Nick & Norah's Infinite Playlist take off with the college-and-under set, chances are they'll probably be downloading it illegally.

Michael Cera is the Nick of the title, a woeful recent dumpee still hung up on his break-up with Tris (Alexis Dziena), a girl both clearly out of his league and eminently worth his friends' scorn.



Michael Cera and Kat Dennings play the title duo of Nick & Norah.

The only straight member of a queercore band, he captures the attention of Norah (Kat Dennings), a schoolmate of Tris', after a gig, when she chooses him randomly to pretend to be her boyfriend to spite Tris.

She's forced to keep up the fiction when Tris suddenly comes over all possessive with her discarded beau and the three of them head out, friends in tow, on a rambling night in Manhattan in search of a super-secret surprise gig by their fave band.

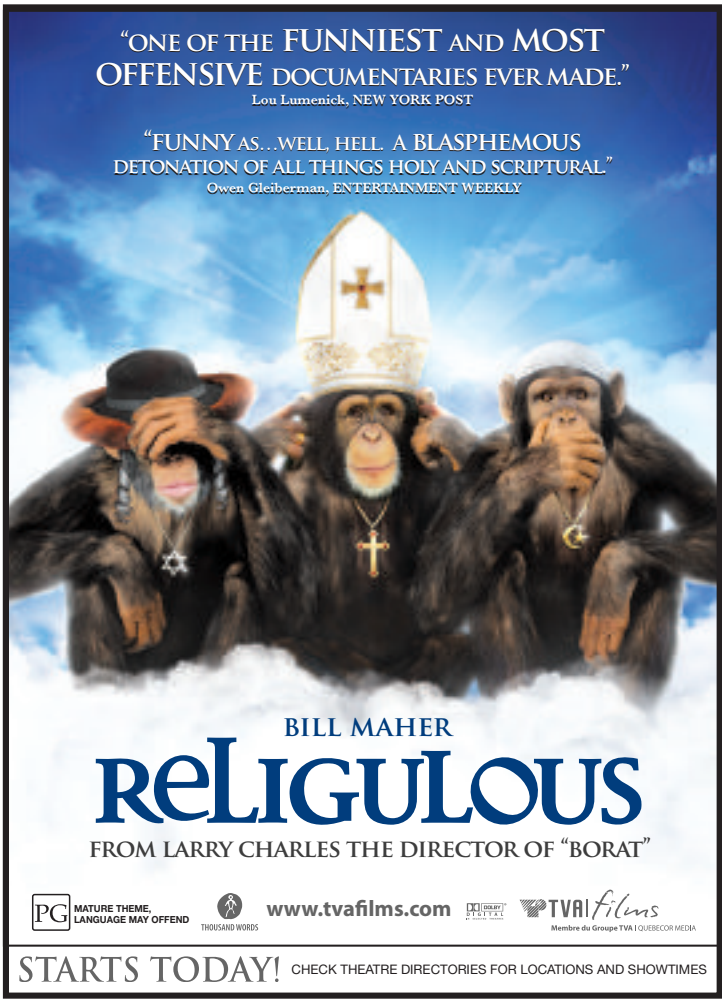
Steeped with references to indie bands and cameos by Saturday Night Live cast members, the film gets the tone of urban culture and fledgling hipsters mostly right, thanks to the performances director Peter Sollett gets from Cera and Dennings and the rest of the youthful cast.

Everyone sounds comfortable with the wry, sarcastic but wholly defensive rhetoric wielded by young people, though Ari Graynor's performance as Caroline — Norah's helplessly drunk and guileless best friend — threatens to steal most of her scenes.

Like any romance, the film is a plea for true love and the triumph of innocence over cynicism, even as the camera coyly wanders away from showing the young lovers consummating their love with a finger-bang on a couch in a famous New York recording studio.

That the film can embrace queercore and finger-bangs and still look like one of the more virtuous depictions of teen life out there says a lot about kids today.





Visit metronews.ca/movies to get showtimes, watch trailers and read reviews.

Harris keeps the Western relevant with Appaloosa

Appaloosa

Director: Ed Harris
Stars: Ed Harris, Viggo Mortensen, Renee Zellweger
Classification: 14A
Rating: ⊕⊕⊕½

PHIL BROWN
for Metro Canada

Whenever it seems like the Western has lost all relevance in contemporary culture, a director comes along to prove there is still life in the cinematic genre.

This time, it's Ed Harris who stepped behind the camera to put cowboys back on film. The actor hasn't directed since Pollack in 2000, and while Appaloosa might highlight some of Harris' limitations as a director, it is still quite an accomplished and surprisingly funny sophomore effort.

As with most Westerns, the setup is cookie cutter: Two guns-for-hire (Ed Harris and Viggo Mortensen) take over the sheriff's role in a small town to drive out a local troublemaker (Jeremy Irons, struggling with an American accent). Of course, there is also an impossibly beautiful woman who unlocks the heart of the rugged gunslinger (Renee Zellweger).

What makes Appaloosa stand out from most Western revivals is Harris' clear understanding of the genre and his desire to toy with the conventions.



Ed Harris and Viggo Mortensen star as guns-for-hire in the western Appaloosa.

Harris' sheriff might be heroic and deadly, but he is also a little thickheaded, frequently relying on his partner to finish his sentences. Harris uses many of these genre inversions as comic relief. Though by no means a parody, the witty screenplay frequently mocks genre expectations and is consistently funny.

"The acting and the screenplay are solid enough to make Appaloosa a worthy addition to the Western oeuvre."

The only real problem with the film is Harris lacks the visual storytelling skills necessary to create an epic Western.

Filmmakers like John Ford and Sergio Leone made the Western a director's genre and without lush and exciting visuals, the movie feels incomplete. Still, the acting and screenplay are solid enough to make Appaloosa a worthy addition to the Western oeuvre.



How to Lose Friends lacks bite of book

How to Lose Friends & **Alienate People**

Director: Robert Weide
Stars: Simon Pegg
Classification: 14A
Rating: ⊕⊕⊕

PHIL BROWN
for Metro Canada



Kirsten Dunst and Simon Pegg are coworkers in How To Lose Friends & Alienate People.

REVIEW How To Lost Friends & Alienate People comes to screens with an impeccable comedic pedigree.

The script is based on a bile-filled exposé of the media by self-proclaimed narcissistic jerk Toby Young, the cast features such names as Simon Pegg and Jeff Bridges, and the project was directed by Curb Your Enthusiasm veteran Robert Weide.

All the pieces are in place for a masterpiece of the comic faux pas … but, sadly, the film fails to deliver on its considerable potential. Though hardly a bad movie, the filmmakers rely too heavily on slapstick comedy and sentimentality for it to be anything more than glossy escapism. The book had bite, but the movie is muzzled.

Simon Pegg stars as Sidney Young (all the names in the film were changed to protect the innocent), a wannabe entertainment journalist from England who suddenly finds himself working for a major magazine in New York.

Once Young is established in his new setting we sit back and watch him gradually blow every opportunity he's given through inappropriate behaviour. The book accurately paints Young as an arrogant blowhard who simply can't follow social decorum. It's a hilarious tale of humiliation that ends with Young getting what he deserves.

The movie tries to make Young more agreeable by making him learn how to behave and fall in love with Kirsten Dunst (who has nothing to do but be pretty and likable). The decision might make the story more palatable for general audiences, but it squanders the best qualities of the source material.

It's confusing that Weide allowed this to happen given how unapologetic the humour is on Curb. Fortunately, the key set pieces from the book are retained and Pegg and Bridges are talented enough to make most scenes breeze by.

It's just unfortunate that the project isn't what it could have been.

Blindness has visual flair

Blindness

Director: Fernando Mereilles
Stars: Julianne Moore
Classification: 18A
Rating: ⊕⊕⊕

STEVE GOW
for Metro Canada



Julianne Moore

REVIEW Based on the acclaimed book by Nobel laureate Jose Saramago, Blindness was deemed unfilmable. Well that was until multi-talented Canadian actor/writer Don McKellar — perhaps most famous as the playwright of The Drowsy Chaperone — got his hands on it.

That may surprise some, but anyone who's seen McKellar's 1998 apocalyptic comic-drama Last Night will surely recognize similarities.

The story of a city besieged by a strange disease that causes everyone to suffer a "white blindness," this film is part-allegory, part-dystopian drama. Simply put, as everyone except Julianne Moore loses their sight and are put in quarantine, society crumbles into chaos, violence and disarray. At times, it makes for a harrowing suspense drama, and director Fernando Mereilles adds a notable visual flair that will either evoke an impressive sense of dread or simply nauseate you depending on your penchant for jump cuts, white blurs and unconventional angles.

Excellent performances from Moore, Mark Ruffalo and a great cast certainly provide lift to Blindness but Mereilles — and McKellar's bleak, sophisticated story — seem so focused on broad symbolic themes of humanity in times of crisis, Blindness may actually impair some moviegoers from discerning the point in the end.

Movies

🌐🌐🌐🌐🌐 A CLASSIC; 🌐🌐🌐🌐 EXCELLENT; 🌐🌐🌐 GOOD; 🌐🌐 FAIR; 🌐 POOR



Greg Kinnear, left, is an inventor on a mission in Flash of Genius.

Flash of Genius sugarcoats it

Flash of **Genius**

Director: Marc Abraham
Stars: Greg Kinnear
Classification: STC
Rating: 🌐🌐🌐

STEVE GOW
for Metro Canada

REVIEW Flash of Genius isn't an easy movie to sell to audiences: It's opening on a weekend opposite no less than a dozen other films.

It doesn't feature a major star (unless Greg Kinnear makes you giddy), and it's about the guy who created the intermittent windshield wiper — not exactly the sort of invention that leaves most mouths gaping in awe.

Set in the heyday of the automobile, Kinnear plays Robert Kearns, an eccentric college professor who — after literally getting corked in the eye — invents a new wiper.

When the Ford Motor Co. shows just enough interest to get his prototype and steal the idea, Kearns must take on the auto giant to regain his dignity even though it costs him his family and, by all indication, his sanity.

As the film briefly shows, Kearns did crack during his quest, only to be found travelling by bus to Washington convinced then-President Nixon commissioned him to design a car.

Making his directorial debut, veteran producer Marc Abraham focuses not on such dark detail, but on the inspirational side of Kearns' story, essentially turning a tale about an eccentric everyman and his labourious court case into a bittersweet Capra-esque family film.

An exceptional performance by Kinnear anchors the drama, but ultimately the film suffers from a bland positivity. Even one of the film's producers recently admitted to the New York Times, "the real Bob Kearns was 10 times as paranoid."

It might have paid off to see a bit less genius and more of whatever put Kearns on that bus going to Washington.

Ang Lee to take fun look at Woodstock festival



Ang Lee

COMEDY Taiwan-born film director Ang Lee, known for such box-office hits as Lust, Caution and Brokeback Mountain, is filming a comedy about Woodstock ahead of the landmark countercultural event's 40th anniversary, his spokesman said.

Taking Woodstock is based on a book by the man who granted the original permit for the 1969 event, which turned into a hippie-dominated music festival that drew half a million fans.

Oscar-winning Lee is shooting the film for Focus Features near the Woodstock location in upstate New York with an eye toward releasing it next year, spokesman David Lee said.

He declined to elaborate on the plot, the budget or the director's reasons for getting involved.

"Ang Lee doesn't choose his movies. His movies choose him." Dan Bloom

The film follows the book Taking Woodstock: A True Story of a Riot, a Concert, and a Life, by Elliot Tiber, who was instrumental in bringing the controversial concert of unprecedented scale to his region.

Lee found the movie theme when he happened to meet Tiber backstage before a televised book promotion in San Francisco, said Dan Bloom, a Taiwan-based writer who has interviewed sources close to the film.

"A lot of people are going to wonder how a guy born in Taiwan can do this," Bloom said. "Ang Lee doesn't choose his movies. His movies choose him."

Broadly speaking, Bloom said, Taking Woodstock is about sizing up one's own life and controlling one's own destiny.

Lee, 53, lives in the United States and has explored other symbols of Americana, such as cowboys in Brokeback Mountain and the comic book character Hulk in a movie of the same name.

REUTERS

Kung Fu Panda coming in 2011

SEQUEL Panda-ing to fans, DreamWorks Animation has confirmed a sequel to its animated hit Kung Fu Panda is in the works and has set a release date of June 3, 2011.

The film, which will reunite Jack Black, as kung fu fan Po, Angelina Jolie and other members of the original voice cast, will be released in 3D — the new standard for all DreamWorks Animation movies starting next year — on regular and Imax screens worldwide.

The 2011 date means Panda will be sharing the summer box-office schedule with Disney/Pixar's Cars 2, which Disney moved last week from a 2012 release to summer 2011.

REUTERS



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Reel Time

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Movie **morsels**

Burn After Reading

●●●

REVIEW Barely a year after Joel and Ethan Coen released one of the finest movies of their career, No Country For Old Men, the auteur siblings have returned. In typical Coen style they made a tonal 180-degree turn, moving from a tightly crafted thriller that ruminates on the nature of violence to a fast-paced comedic farce that plays hatchet murders for slapstick comedy. Given that No Country saw the brothers regain the edge and craft of their early thrillers, there was hope that this movie would return them to the comedic heyday of Raising Arizona and The Big Lebowski. Unfortunately that didn't happen. While Burn After Reading is a better comedy than the brothers' recent Hollywood dalliances like Intolerable Cruelty, it's still far too inconsistent to match their finest work.

Phil Brown/Metro Canada



John Cusack is the voice behind Igor in the animated film of the same name.

Choke

●●●

REVIEW It's nearly impossible not to compare Choke to the 1999 hit film Fight Club. The most obvious reason: Like Fight Club, Choke is based on a novel by Chuck Palahniuk, one of today's most gifted/twisted authors. Sam Rockwell plays Victor, a sex-addicted scam artist who, when he's not working his dead-end job at a colonial theme park or visiting his demented mom at a mental hospital, he's willfully choking in restaurants to earn the trust of rich patrons. While that may sound intriguing enough, soon Victor falls in love with his mother's new nurse and becomes obsessed with finding out the identity of his father. Sure, it's as convoluted as it sounds, but apart from some fascinating unconventionalities, Choke is weakened by trying to overly conform to romantic-comedy standards.

Steve Gow/Metro Canada



Eagle Eye

●●●

REVIEW When Steven Spielberg first came up with the idea for Eagle Eye, it probably seemed like an outrageous science fiction story. Now, some 10 years later — and having handed the reins over to Disturbia director D.J. Caruso — Eagle Eye may be a high-octane, car crash-filled action flick, but it hardly contains the insightfulness of what it truly needs to work. Eagle Eye features Shia LaBeouf as Jerry, a unmotivated slacker who unwillfully gets paired up with single mom Rachel after the duo receive mysterious phone calls from a strange female voice saying they've "been activated." As such, the unlucky couple are cast on a dangerous unknown mission, while all kinds of technology — like cells, traffic lights, ATM machines and pretty much anything plugged in — is manipulated along the way. There is a twist to the plot that I won't spoil here, but unfortunately, the big revelation is too late into the film and of little shock value to really pay off.

Steve Gow/Metro Canada

Ghost Town

●●●

REVIEW If you don't know who Ricky Gervais is, Ghost Town is staring straight at you. Why? Well, because this all-too-familiar romantic comedy is desperately aiming to expose the British comic sensation to a new audience. Gervais plays a selfish arse of a dentist named Pincus who, after a near-death experience, obtains the sole ability to communicate with New York City's ghosts — those who are walking around, waiting to earn their wings by completing unfinished business with their loved ones. Obviously, there's nothing entirely new about this film. Whether it's the classic Christmas flick It's a Wonderful Life or 1990's Ghost or even The Sixth Sense, this movie shares too many similarities with cinema's previous sentimentalities with the afterlife.

Steve Gow/Metro Canada

Igor

●●●●

REVIEW This film is a tribute to all those little forgotten people in every monster movie — all those "Igors." You know, like when the mad scientist says: "Igor, pull the switch!" The animated Igor (à la Shrek) is a very funny movie. It may appear to be a cartoon for the kids, but the dialogue is quite sophisticated and a delight for adults as well. John Cusack is the voice behind Igor while Molly Shannon plays his monster.

Steve Veale/Metro Canada

Lakeview Terrace

●●●½

REVIEW If you think the neighbour playing his Nickelback CD too loud is irritating, wait until you meet Abel Turner in Lakeview Terrace. Now that is a bad neighbour. In the Neil LaBute thriller, Samuel L. Jackson plays the racist LAPD cop and widowed father who rules his small cul-de-sac with the iron fist of Stalin. When interracial couple Chris (Patrick Wilson) and Lisa (Kerry Washington) move in next door, Turner sees to it to drive the newlyweds out. While the tension builds, so do the violent, destructive battles between Turner and Chris until the neighbourhood literally goes up in flames. Jackson is playing one of his most intense roles in recent memory. With themes of race and fear, Lakeview Terrace is a nail-biter that stays with you long after the fire.

Steve Gow/Metro Canada

Miracle at St. Anna

●●●

REVIEW Using a real-life massacre of innocent civilians by German troops as his inspiration, Spike Lee's film follows a quartet of black GIs who are cut off from their unit behind enemy lines. They rely on a remote village to hide them and the wounded and traumatized little boy one of them has adopted, while their commanding officer demands that they bring back a captured German to confirm an imminent attack. The film has a looseness and disjointed continuity that suggest a drastic editing down that is only partly mitigated by its lunge into the fantastical at the end. Despite his habitual contentiousness, Lee is still a marvelous craftsman, and when something works it really works, though not enough to make Miracle At St. Anna anything like an unqualified success.

Rick McGinnis/Metro Canada

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Screen Times

THESE PAGES COVER MOVIE START TIMES FROM FRI., OCT. 3 TO THURS., OCT. 9. TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

This week's new releases are highlighted in red.

Halifax

BAYERS LAKE
190 Chain Lake Dr., Bayers Lake
902-876-4800

Appaloosa (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:10-3:50-6:40-9:20

Beverly Hills Chihuahua (G) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:50-4:20-7:9:20

Blindness (18) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:10-4-6:40-9:35

Burn After Reading (14) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 2-4:20-7:10-9:50

Drona (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Sub-Titled, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:20-4:30-8

Eagle Eye (14) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1-1:30-3:50-4:20-6:45-7:05-9:30-9:50

The Express (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Sneak Preview, Stadium Seating Sat 7

Flash of Genius (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1-3:45-6:30-9:20

Ghost Town (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 1:40-4:10-6:30-9 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat 1:40-4:10-9:50 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sun-Thu 1:40-4:10-6:30-9

How to Lose Friends & Alienate People (14) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:30-4:05-6:50-9:30

Igor (G) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:20-3:40-6:30

Lakeview Terrace (14) Dolby Stereo Digital Fri-Thu 1:20-3:40-6:55-9:45

Miracle at St. Anna (18) Dolby Stereo Digital Fri-Thu 1:10-4:30-7:45

My Best Friend's Girl (18) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:30-4-6:45-9:10

Nick and Norah's Infinite Playlist (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 2:10-4:30-7:20-9:40

Nights in Rodanthe (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 2-4:25-7:15-9:45

Righteous Kill (14) Dolby Stereo Digital Fri-Sat 1:40-4:10-7-9:40 Dolby Stereo Digital Sun 1:40-4:10 Dolby Stereo Digital Mon 1:40-4:10-9:40 Dolby Stereo Digital Tue 1:40-4:10-7-9:40 Dolby Stereo Digital Wed 1:40-4:10-9:40 Dolby Stereo Digital Thu 1:40-4:10-7-9:40

The Women (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital Fri-Thu 9

WWE: No Mercy (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sun 9

IMAX
190 Chain Lake Dr., Bayers Lake
902-876-4800

The Dark Knight: The IMAX Experience (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 2:15-9

Deep Sea 3D (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1-6:30-7:45

OXFORD THEATRE
6408 Quinpool Rd.
902-423-7488

Religulous (STC) Fri 6:45-9 Sat-Sun 2-6:45-9 Mon 9:45 Tue-Thu 6:45-9

PARK LANE
5657 Spring Garden Rd.
902-423-4860

Blindness (18) Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 12:40-3:20-6:40-9:20 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 3:20-6:40-9:20

Burn After Reading (14) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 1:15-4:7:20-9:45 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 4-7:20-9:45

Choke (18) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 1:10-3:25-7:10-9:40 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 3:25-7:10-9:40

Don Quichotte (Ballet) (STC) Stadium Seating Sat 1

Eagle Eye (14) Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 1-3:40-6:30-9:10 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 3:40-6:30-9:10

Flash of Genius (STC) Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 1:25-3:30-6:20-9 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 3:30-6:20-9

Ghost Town (PG) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri 12:45-3:15-6:45-9:05 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Sat 6:45-9:05 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Sun 12:45-3:15-6:45-9:05 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Mon 3:15-9:25 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Tue-Thu 3:15-6:45-9:05

Nick and Norah's Infinite Playlist (PG) Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 1:20-3:50-7-9:30 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 3:50-7-9:30

Nights in Rodanthe (PG) Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 1:30-3:45-6:50-9:25 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 3:45-6:50-9:25

Lower Sackville

LOWER SACKVILLE
760 Sackville Dr., Downsview Plaza
902-869-2022

Beverly Hills Chihuahua (G) Stadium Seating Fri 7-9:15 Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 12:30-3-7-9:15 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 7-9:15

Burn After Reading (14) Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 7:05-9:40

Eagle Eye (14) Stadium Seating Fri 6:45-9:25 Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 12:45-3:30-6:45-9:25 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 6:45-9:25

How to Lose Friends & Alienate People (14) Stadium Seating Fri 6:50-9:25 Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 12:30-3:15-6:50-9:25 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 6:50-9:25

Igor (G) Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 12:45-3:15

Lakeview Terrace (14) Stadium Seating Fri 7:10-9:30 Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 1-3:45-7:10-9:30 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 7:10-9:30



RALPH NELSON/SMPSP

Shia LaBeouf stars in the race-against-time thriller Eagle Eye, which is currently in theatres.

Nick and Norah's Infinite Playlist (PG) Stadium Seating Fri 6:40-9:15 Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 1-3:45-6:40-9:15 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 6:40-9:15

Nights in Rodanthe (PG) Stadium Seating Fri 6:30-8:50 Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 1:15-3:50-6:30-8:50 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 6:30-8:50

Dartmouth

DARTMOUTH
650 Portland St., 902-434-4200

Burn After Reading (14) Fri-Thu 6:55-9:05

Ghost Town (PG) Fri 6:40-9 Sat-Sun 2:10-6:40-9 Mon-Thu 6:40-9

Igor (G) Sat-Sun 2:25

Mamma Mia! Sing-a-Long (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital Fri 6:35-8:55 Dolby Stereo Digital Sat-Sun 2:05-6:35-8:55 Dolby Stereo Digital Mon-Thu 6:35-8:55

My Best Friend's Girl (18) Fri 6:50-9 Sat-Sun 2:20-6:50-9 Mon-Thu 6:50-9

Righteous Kill (14) Fri 6:45-9:05 Sat-Sun 2:15-6:45-9:05 Mon-Thu 6:45-9:05

Tyler Perry's the Family That Preys (PG) Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo Digital Fri 6:30-8:55 Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo Digital Sat-Sun 2-6:30-8:55 Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo Digital Mon-Thu 6:30-8:55

DARTMOUTH CROSSING
145 Shubie Dr., Dartmouth Crossing
902-481-3251

Beverly Hills Chihuahua (G) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:35-4:15-7-9:25

Blindness (18) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 1:25-4:05-6:40-9:20 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat 1:15-3:55-6:30-9:10 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sun 1:15-3:55-6:40-9:20 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 1:25-4:05-6:40-9:20

Burn After Reading (14) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 6:55-9:40 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 1:35-4:05-6:45-9:30 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 1:45-4:15-6:55-9:40

Eagle Eye (14) Dolby Stereo Digital, Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 1:20-3:55-6:30-9:20 Dolby Stereo Digital, Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 1:10-3:45-6:35-9:10 Dolby Stereo Digital, Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 1:20-3:55-6:30-9:20

Fly Me to the Moon 3-D (STC) Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 2-4:20-7:20-9:30 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 1:50-4:10-7:10-9:20 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 2-4:20-7:20-9:30

How to Lose Friends & Alienate People (14) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 1:20-3:55-6:45-9:20 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 1:20-3:55-6:35-9:10 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Wed 1:20-3:55-6:45-9:20 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Thu 1:20-3:55-9:35

Igor (G) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 2-4:20-6:30 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 1:50-4:10-6:30 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 2-4:20-6:30

Lakeview Terrace (14) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 1:35-4:10-6:50-9:25 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 1:25-4-6:40-9:15 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 1:35-4:10-6:50-9:25

My Best Friend's Girl (18) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 9:15 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 9:05 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 9:15

Nick and Norah's Infinite Playlist (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 1:55-4:20-6:45-9:30 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 1:30-4:20-6:45-9:40 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 1:55-4:20-6:45-9:30

Nights in Rodanthe (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 1:45-4:25-6:50-9:10 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 1:55-4:25-7-9:30 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 1:45-4:25-6:50-9:10

Religulous (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 1:55-4:30-7:05-9:35 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 1:45-4:30-6:55-9:25 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 1:55-4:30-7:05-9:35

Righteous Kill (14) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 6:55-9:35 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat 1:40-4:20-6:55-9:35 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sun 1:40-4:20 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 1:40-4:20-6:55-9:35

WWE: No Mercy (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sun 9

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Music

Black Kids rethink God rock

BRIAN TOWIE
Metro Canada

Reggie Youngblood says you'll find the sexually repressed Christian rock scene a great place to find sex, but it takes patience to work your mojo.

"You start by going up to someone and say, 'Hey, I'm looking for a prayer partner,'" says the frontman of Black Kids. "It eventually gets to a point where neither of you can hold back your urges, and the climax ends up being better than any drug. It's not a quick hookup, but it's worth going to hell for."

He knows of what he speaks. Before his five-piece new wave and rock hybrid assembled in Jacksonville, Fla., in early 2006 and went on to become the latest indie pop media darling, Youngblood adapted his Southern Baptist Sunday school sensibilities to a Christian rock band.

Youngblood and company soon found success after they replaced God with 80s retro stylings, pulling influence from synthy sounds and dance rhythms set to his sometimes dour lead vocals from the likes ABC, Morrisey, The Cure and even some hair metal on 2007 EP Wizard of Ahhs and 2008's full-length Partie Traumatic.

"The songs aren't too terribly different from what we've done before. We've taken all the guilt out of our lyrics and we changed 'Jesus' to 'baby,'" he said. "We we're very cognizant of what we enjoyed as children, and that stuff reigns supreme on our record. I remember buying Poison's Open Up And Say Ahh! and the person at the counter was like, 'This is what you want?'"

After a 2007 breakout gig at the Athens Popfest in Georgia, critics including the New York Times and Rolling Stone — who called Black Kids one of the ten "artists to watch" this year — lustily gushed over the band. In a very short time, Black Kids have hit No. 5 on the U.K. charts, played this year's Lollapalooza and has embarked on their first long-term tour.

It's not a question of too much too soon for the band, but they will admit they've already reached some of their career goals. Of course, there's always somewhere higher you can go. "We've definitely already done things we've aspired to do, like play our dream gigs," Youngblood said. "But I guess we could always headline one next."



Partie Traumatic, the debut album by Black Kids, was released in Canada in July. They've been called one of ten "Artists to Watch" in 2008 by Rolling Stone magazine.

Obama takes the Better Way on the campaign trail

SoundCheck



Alan Cross
alan@ongoinghistory.com

I don't know about you, but in the last two weeks, I've heard people throw around the word "trillion" more than I've heard in my entire life — as in "The U.S. credit crisis is going to cost $5 trillion or more to sort out." Why anyone would want to run a country under any circumstances (let alone in the midst of a universal economic meltdown) is beyond me.

But this doom makes our selection of leaders and our scrutiny of their choices even more important. The media's intensity has been set to "insane." I'm more than happy to contribute to the insanity by judging the candidates' ability to lead based on their choice of campaign theme songs.

Right away I'm worried about the John McCain/Sarah Palin camp. Sure, he's a storied war vet and she can see Russia from her house, but who came up with the idea of using Take a Chance on Me by ABBA for a rally song? Maybe it's because John Mellencamp told McCain to stop using his song, Our Country while Heart freaked out over Palin's wannabe association with Barracuda.

Election 2008

The best music heard at Republican rallies was played by protesters. Rage Against the Machine turned up in Minneapolis to play at the Republican National convention, but were turned away because they allegedly didn't have the proper permits. Still, they offered up A cappella versions of Bulls on Parade and Testify before leading a march.

The Barack Obama/Joe Biden ticket has much better music. Anyone who uses a Ben Harper song (Better Way) shows good taste. And a surprising number of cool bands turned up to play for that big rally in Denver. While Stevie Wonder sang Signed, Sealed and Delivered inside the stadium, bands like Silversun Pickups, Nada Surf and Cold War Kids (an actual band, not a sons-and-daughters of veterans group) were playing for the crowd in the parking lot.

On this side of the border, the theme song battle has been, well, dull. If the Conservatives or the Greens have an official song, it hasn't registered with me yet. Come to think of it, I can't recall anything official from the Liberals or the NDP, either.

Using rock and pop to spin a political platform? Not in Canada. Pity.



Rage Against the Machine's Zack de la Rocha, right, showed up at the Republican National convention, but was not allowed to play. Meanwhile, Democratic contender Barack Obama has used Better Way by Ben Harper, far right, on the campaign trail. GETTY IMAGES

The Ongoing History of New Music can be heard on stations across Canada. Read more at exploremusic.com and ongoinghistory.com





Rosie returns to the small screen

Comedienne Rosie O'Donnell is returning to the small screen. Rosie's Variety Show will debut as an hour-long live special on NBC on Nov. 26, and could expand to a full series, depending on viewer reactions. **USMAGAZINE.COM**

Television

The kids go to college

TV Picks

Degrassi: The Next Generation

Season Premiere: Oct. 5
Network: CTV

The kids — or at least some of them — go to college, and much of the drama in the season 8 debut has to do with dorm room assignments. Meanwhile back at Degrassi there's a new group of grade 9 students, and Mia (Nina Dobrev) is having model anguish. By now it's probably a bit obvious to point out that what happens to a single kid in a season of Degrassi is more than usually goes on in a whole year at any real life high school, but that's why the kids love it.

Beautiful People

Season Premiere: Oct. 6
Network: Slice

CTV PHOTO



Degrassi: The Next Generation. Pictured: Evan Williams as Kelly and Sarah Barrable-Tishauer as Liberty.

A fantastically creepy reality series about a pair of Euro-dudes from L.A. who come to Toronto to set up the latest branch of their online social network for beautiful people only. Later episodes are supposed to follow around candidates and members of Beautiful People, but the debut focuses on Greg and Robert, the founders, while they try to drum up publicity for the launch of the website. Strap in tight, because the line between reality and satire is as fluid as a river in spring here.

SNL: Weekend Update Thursday

Season Premiere: Oct. 9
Network: NBC

Saturday Night Live's news parody moves to primetime for the first of three election-themed special programs. Expect a lot of Darrel Hammond as John McCain and Bill Clinton, but we know everyone will be tuning in for Tina Fey's cameos as Sarah Palin — an amusing but one-note impersonation that's getting as tired as the candidates in the U.S. election these days.

Life On Mars

Season Premiere: Oct. 9
Network: Global

"Anticipated" is the wrong word for this Americanized remake of the hit British cop/time travel show — "dreaded" is more accurate, especially since it's gone through several major re-castings and a location change since ABC finished its first pilot months ago. The series stars Harvey Keitel and Gretchen Mol.

Rick McGinnis/Metro Canada

Parker gets reading



READ BARKET/GETTY IMAGES

Mary Louise Parker attends 'Read for the Record Day' at NBC Studios yesterday in New York City.



Fall ratings dropping

IntelleVision



Rick McGinnis
rick.mcginnis@metronews.ca

A SLOW START: The fall TV season — which we haven't quite escaped; do I need to point that out? — is unofficially in its second week, and the numbers aren't looking good. According to a Variety story this week, ratings have seen a 4.3 per cent decline from last year, with NBC getting the worst battering, losing a whopping 16.3 per cent of its viewership, followed by CBS, with an overall ratings decline of 9.6 per cent.

Only Fox and the CW are showing modest gains, though a Fox executive told Variety that he basically blamed viewers. "I just don't think the general audience was ready or prepared or aware that broadcast TV was back with new season premieres," said Peter Liguori, chairman of entertainment for Fox. I know what he means — even I can't help but feel nostalgic for a time when we spent half the summer getting ready for the new TV season.

As a kid, we used to scan the production notes in Variety eager for news from the sets of Happy Days and All In The Family, and would linger for hours under shady trees to escape the midday heat and imagine just what we thought was going to happen in the upcoming seasons of Rhoda and The Rockford Files. We'd even turn our backyards into the junkyard set from Sanford & Son, and fight to see who got to play Meathead or J.J. from Good Times. Kids these days — they have no respect for tradition.

Fox, true to form, has been the quickest to react, rewarding Fringe with a second season despite its disappointing performance so far, and getting ready to cancel the Sarah Connor Chronicles for dragging down the ratings for Prison Break, its lead-out show on Tuesday nights. Most returning shows are trying to regain audiences lost to the short season caused by the Hollywood writers' strike, but many of them have been off the air for 10 months. It's at times like this that a download marketplace instead of a seasonal broadcast schedule should start looking even more attractive to executives; it's already inevitable, but even at times like this, it's unwise to underestimate the entropy that rules decision-making in the TV industry.

IN THE WOODS: Food programming is probably the most constricted on the air in terms of style, but the Food Network might have broken the mold with The Wild Chef, a homegrown production debuting tonight. Hosted by Martin Picard, the bear-like chef/owner of Montreal's Au Pied de Cochon, and his amiable sous chef Hugue Dufour, it's a woolly, ambling travelogue through the backwoods of Quebec, as Picard searches for something he's never eaten before, like the muskrat he barbeques in the pilot.

A highlight is Picard and Dufour standing in a blizzard, blithely telling the audience that the first ingredient they need for a recipe is a snowstorm. The show is so utterly Canadian, right to the marrow of its essence, that it practically makes up the full requirements of Cancon, and should free Food up to turn over the balance of its week to Jamie Oliver and Rachel Ray.

Rick McGinnis writes about music, movies, books and television, but not opera.

Baby on the brain
Actress Jaime King is eager to have children with her director husband Kyle Newman. "I want to start soon. I love both boys and girls. We even have our names picked out," King tells OK! magazine. IMDB.COM

Hogans call truce for son

FAMILY Hulk Hogan's incarcerated son Nick will bring his feuding family back together when he's released from jail in Florida on Oct. 21, imdb.com reports.

His pop star sister Brooke Hogan has revealed she's planning a reunion with her estranged parents Hulk and Linda to mark Nick's release from Pinellas County Jail in Clearwater, Fla.

"For Nick, we will all go together. He wants to see us. It's not about us, it's about him," she says.

Brooke is planning to cook up a feast for her 18-year-old brother once he becomes a free man.

"He wants me to cook him everything that exists," she tells Life + Style magazine. "Mac and cheese, cheeseburgers, salad, chicken — he'd even eat broccoli if I made it for him. Anything other than jail food."

Nick is serving an eight-month sentence after pleading no contest to a felony reckless driving offence following a car crash in Clearwater, Fla., which left his friend and passenger, John Graziano, brain damaged.

METRO NEWS SERVICES


PHOTO CREDIT

Brooke and Nick Hogan in better times. Nick is currently serving an eight-month sentence for felony reckless driving.

Canadian production company options Cohen's tween novel

Tish Cohen's tween-targeted novel The Invisible Rules of the Zoe Lama is being adapted as a live-action TV series by Canadian production company 9 Story Entertainment.

The Invisible Rules of the Zoe Lama tells the story of a seventh-grader, Zoe Costello, who confidently and compassionately dispenses advice to friends and family before she faces her own difficult truths.

9 Story CEO Vince Commisso said he has optioned the novel and will produce an initial 13 episodes of the series for worldwide broadcast sale.

The book-to-TV series project is a follow-up to Cohen's debut novel, Townhouse, which Fox Studios and Scott Free Prods. are developing as a theatrical feature to be directed by John Carney (Once), with Doug Wright (Quills) writing the script.

REUTERS

90210 axed in Australia

CANCELLED Beverly Hills, 90210 spinoff 90210 has been axed from Australian TV screens due to poor ratings, imdb.com reports.

The drama was dropped from Channel 10 after just four episodes because there wasn't enough interest in the show.

The debut program pulled in 837,000 viewers last month, while the last episode shown on Monday achieved viewing figures of just 616,000.

"90210 is an excellent show that clearly resonated with a younger audience, but it didn't have the kind of numbers needed to stay in this intensely competitive environment," a spokesperson for the channel says.

The station intends to broadcast the remaining episodes during the non-ratings period over summer.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

FRIDAY

HA	H	D	B	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	
primetime 10/3/08	31	31	31	ABC	News (N)	ABC Wld News	Inside Edition	Chronicle	Wife Swap (N)		Supernanny (N)		20/20 (N)
	7	7	7	ASN	The Road to Avonlea		Robson Arms	TMZ (N)	Wife Swap (N)		Don't Forget the Lyrics!		Stargate SG-1
	11	11	11	CBC	Coronation St.	Jeopardy! (N)	Air Force-Final	Rick Mercer	Doctor Who		CBC News: The National		The Hour
	32	32	32	CBS	News (N)	Evening News	The Insider (N)	Entertainment	Ghost Whisperer (N)		The Ex List "Pilot" (N)		NUMB3RS (N)
	6	6	6	CIHF	Entertainment	ET Canada	Life (HDTV) (N)		NUMB3RS (N)		The Ex List "Pilot" (N)		News (N)
	9	9	9	CJCH	eTalk	Hollywood	To Be Announced		Ghost Whisperer (N)		Supernanny (N)		News (N)
	36	36	36	FOX	Deal-No Deal	The Simpsons	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Smarter Than a 5th Grader?		Don't Forget the Lyrics!		Fox First
	12	12	12	NBC	News (N)	NBC News	Hollywood	Extra (N)	America's Toughest Jobs (N)		Deal or No Deal (N)		Life (N)
sports	55	55	55	SCOR	Hockey Talk	Game On	Poker Pacific Poker UK Open.		WWE SmackDown!				Score Tonight
	53	53	53	TSN	Off the Record	SportsCentre	CFL Football BC Lions at Toronto Argonauts. From Rogers Centre in Toronto.						CFL Football
cable variety	16	16	16	A&E	Cold Case Files		CSI: Miami (HDTV)		CSI: Miami "Burned"		CSI: Miami "Kill Switch"		CSI: Miami
	70	70	70	APTN	News		Mixed Blessing	First Nation	Rabbit Fall	The Rez	*Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood* (2002)		
	37	37	37	BRVO	Street Legal		Desperate Housewives		Bravo! Fact	Beyond-Screen	*Not One Less* ★★ (1999, Drama)		
	49	49	49	COM	Laughs	Comedy Now	Air Force	Good Morning	Corner Gas	Rick Mercer	The Simpsons	South Park	Kathy Griffin
	18	18	18	CNN	(5) The Situation Room		Lou Dobbs Tonight		CNN Election Center		Larry King Live		Cooper 360
	38	38	38	DISC	Cash Cab	How It's Made	Daily Planet (N)		Greensburg (N)		Man vs. Wild (N)		Tutankhamun
	34	48	48	HGTV	Holmes on Homes		House Hunters	Property Virgin	House Hunters	Extreme Home	Build a New Life		Relocation
	46	46	46	HIST	Blow Down		NCIS "Angel of Death"		Shockwave		Blow Down		NCIS
	17	17	17	MM	Hot & Wet 2008		So You Think You Can Dance Canada (DVS)				*Friday Night Lights* ★★★ (2004, Drama)		
	206	206	206	PIX	(6) *Blow* (2001, Drama)		(8:15) *Highway 61* ★★★ (1991, Drama) Don McKellar.				*Bringing Out the Dead* (1999, Drama)		
	39	39	39	SHOW	EastEnders	Little Britain	The Best Years (DVS)		The Guard (HDTV)		Cock'd Gunns	Kenny-Spenny	Webdreams
	40	40	40	SLICE	Matchmaker	Til Debt-Part	End of Leash	ET Canada	Mr. Friday (N)	The List	Til Debt-Part	Til Debt-Part	In Laws
	21	21	21	TLC	What Not to Wear		What Not to Wear		What Not to Wear		What Not to Wear (N)		Say Yes-Dress
	22	22	22	W	Shopping Bags	Style by Jury	Will & Grace	Friends	Mediums	Mediums	*The Initiation of Sarah* (2006, Suspense)		
	27	27	27	YTV	The Mighty B!	iCarly	*Cheaper by the Dozen 2* ★★ (2005, Comedy)				Smallville		Dark Oracle

SATURDAY

HA	H	D	B	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	
primetime 10/4/08	31	31	31	ABC	College Football		Patriots All-Access		College Football Ohio State at Wisconsin or Oregon at USC. (HDTV) (Live)				
	7	7	7	ASN	The Road to Avonlea		Movie				Comedy Now	Comedy Inc.	Heart-Laughter
	11	11	11	CBC	Sat. Report	Antiques	*Glory Road* ★★★ (2006, Drama) Josh Lucas.				HNIC-Anthem Challenge		City Chase (N)
	32	32	32	CBS	College Football		The Insider (N)	NE Blood Bank	48 Hours Mystery (N)		EliteXC Saturday Night Fights (Live)		
	6	6	6	CIHF	Disasters of the Century		Painkiller Jane		Sinking a Destroyer		Kenny-Spenny	Trailer Park	News (N)
	9	9	9	CJCH	W-FIVE-Sledhead		*Doomstown* (2006, Drama) Chris "K.C." Collins.				Law & Order: SVU		News (N)
	36	36	36	FOX	Friends	Friends	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Cops (N)	Cops	America's Most Wanted		Fox First
	12	12	12	NBC	News (N)	NBC News	Access Hollywood (N)		Knight Rider (HDTV)		Chuck (HDTV)		Law/Ord SVU
sports	55	55	55	SCOR	Score Update	Footy Show	Score on NFL	MLS Soccer Toronto FC at Red Bull New York. (Live)				Footy Show	X-Fighters
	53	53	53	TSN	CFL Football		CFL Football Winnipeg Blue Bombers at Edmonton Eskimos. (HDTV) (Live)						Boxing
cable variety	16	16	16	A&E	LA Gang Unit	Redemption	CSI: Miami "Dead Zone"		CSI: Miami "Fade Out"		CSI: Miami "Skeletons"		The Sopranos
	70	70	70	APTN	Tribal Treks	Music Speaks	MYTV Hip hop.	The Mix	Rez Bluez		*Girl, Interrupted* ★★ (1999, Drama)		
	37	37	37	BRVO	Arts & Minds	Bravo!Videos	Does Art Matter?: Election		The Unauthorized Biography of Johnny Cash		Johnny Cash Live		
	49	49	49	COM	Laughs	Comics!	Just for Laughs		Corner Gas	Blue Collar TV	The Simpsons	South Park	Jeff Dunham
	18	18	18	CNN	This Week in Politics		Lou Dobbs This Week (HDTV)		Special Investigations		Larry King Live		Newsroom
	38	38	38	DISC	How It's Made	How It's Made	Mighty Ships "Becrux"		Monster Moves		Verminators Rats; roaches.		Criss Angel
	34	48	48	HGTV	Holmes on Homes		Colin & Justin's Home Heist		Sarah's House	Mansions	Million Dollar Listing		Extreme-Home
	46	46	46	HIST	Real Chainsaw Massacre		NCIS "Chained"		Ancestors	Ancestors	*The Manchurian Candidate* ★★★ (2004)		
	17	17	17	MM	You Can Dance		Movie				Greek		Dance
	206	206	206	PIX	(5:30) *Mask*		(7:45) *Salvador* ★★★ (1986, Docudrama) James Woods.				*Dark City* ★★ (1998, Fantasy)		
	39	39	39	SHOW	*Matrix Revol.*	TBA	About a Girl	Kink in Hair	*Dog Park* ★★ (1998, Romance-Comedy), Luke Wilson				*Underworld: Ev*
	40	40	40	SLICE	Real Housewives of OC		Real Housewives of OC		End of Leash	Newlywed	Spoiled Rotten	Party Mamas	Rich Poor
	21	21	21	TLC	Moving Up (HDTV)		Flip It Back (HDTV)		Flip House	Over Designed	Property Ladder (HDTV)		Trading
	22	22	22	W	*Practical*		*The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants* ★★★ (2005, Comedy-Drama)				*In Her Shoes* ★★★ (2005, Comedy-Drama)		
	27	27	27	YTV	Adrenaline Proj	Mystery Hnt.	Wolverine	Transformers	*Justice League: The New Frontier* (2008, Action)				Storm Hawks

SUNDAY

HA	H	D	B	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	
primetime 10/5/08	31	31	31	ABC	News (N)	ABC News	Funniest Home Videos		Extreme Makeover: Home		Desperate Housewives		Brothers
	7	7	7	ASN	Young Blades "Wanted"		Funniest Home Videos		Gossip Girl (HDTV)		Cold Case "True Calling"		Mad Men
	11	11	11	CBC	Heartland "Ghost Horse"		*Céline* (2008, Biography) Christine Ghawi, Jodelle Ferland.				CBC News: Sunday Night (N)		fifth estate
	32	32	32	CBS	NFL Football: Patriots at 49ers		60 Minutes (HDTV) (N)		The Amazing Race 13		Cold Case "True Calling"		The Unit
	6	6	6	CIHF	renegadepress	King of the Hill	Brothers & Sisters (N)		The Simpsons	King of the Hill	Family Guy (N)	American Dad	News (N)
	9	9	9	CJCH	Star Wars Clo.	Degrassi: Next	Law & Order: Criminal Intent		The Amazing Race 13		Desperate Housewives		News (N)
	36	36	36	FOX	Cold Case		King of the Hill	King of the Hill	The Simpsons	King of the Hill	Family Guy (N)	American Dad	Fox First
	12	12	12	NBC	News (N)	NBC News	Football Night in America		(9:15) NFL Football Pittsburgh Steelers at Jacksonville Jaguars.				
sports	55	55	55	SCOR	(6) NFL Blitz		The WWE Experience		BodogFight		Strikeforce		Poker
	53	53	53	TSN	SportsCentre		Football Night in America		(9:15) NFL Football Pittsburgh Steelers at Jacksonville Jaguars.				
cable variety	16	16	16	A&E	CSI: Miami "Dead Zone"		CSI: Miami "Innocent"		CSI: Miami "Shattered"		CSI: Miami (HDTV)		CSI: Miami
	70	70	70	APTN	Closer-Home	MYTV Hip hop.	Rez Bluez		Music Speaks	The Mix	*Mask* ★★★ (1985, Biography) Eric Stoltz.		
	37	37	37	BRVO	Mad Men		Arts & Minds	Bravo! Fact	Chasing Wild Horses		*Something's Gotta Give* ★★★ (2003)		
	49	49	49	COM	Laughs	Comics!	Winnipeg Comedy Festival		Laughs	Rick Mercer	The Simpsons	South Park	Comedy Net
	18	18	18	CNN	Lou Dobbs This Week (HDTV)		Newsroom		Special Investigations		Larry King Live		Newsroom
	38	38	38	DISC	Cash Cab	How It's Made	MythBusters		Mystery of the Crystal Skulls				MythBusters
	34	48	48	HGTV	Green Homes	Extreme Home	House Hunters	Buy Me	Property Virgin	Unsellable	Extreme Makeover: Home		Holmes-Homes
	46	46	46	HIST	The Perfect Weapon		NCIS "Forced Entry"		Sea Hunters		*The Perfect Storm* (2000, Suspense)		
	17	17	17	MM	MTV's Top Pop Group		Greek "Multiple Choice"		Legally Blonde		So You Think You Can Dance Canada		
	206	206	206	PIX	(6:50) *Spartacus* ★★★★ (1960, Historical Drama) Kirk Douglas, Laurence Olivier.						*Running Scared* (1986, Comedy-Drama)		
	39	39	39	SHOW	Wife Swap		The Guard (HDTV)		*Every Second Counts* (2008, Drama) Stephen Collins.				Weeds
	40	40	40	SLICE	In Laws	Last 10	X-Weighted "Kristen"		Wedding SOS	Bulging Brides	Rich Bride, Poor Bride		Biggest Loser
	21	21	21	TLC	LA Ink "On the Rocks..."		Born a Boy, Brought Up a Girl		Help! I'm a Hoarder		Pregnant for 46 Years		Amish Country
	22	22	22	W	(5) *In Her Shoes* (2005)		Grocery	Style by Jury	*Cradle of Lies* (2006, Suspense) Shannon Sturges, Dylan Neal.				Missing
	27	27	27	YTV	*Superman Returns* ★★★ (2006, Adventure) Brandon Routh, Kate Bosworth, James Marsden. Premiere.							Prank Patrol	Falcon Beach

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Century concert

April Wine, Matt Mays and El Torpedo, Sam Roberts Band and 54-40 will all be performing at the Cunard Centre on Nov. 28 at 8 p.m. as part of the Q104 Quarter Century Concert. Tickets $35 in advance. Tickets go on sale Saturday, 10 a.m. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Going Out

World falling for flamenco

Performer notes growing interest in traditional Spanish art of dance

PHILIP CROUCHER
philip.croucher@metronews.ca

You can hear it in her voice, with her words, the passion for flamenco dancing that Spain's Inmaculada Ortega has.

"For me it's a language," the 37-year-old said from her home in Madrid. "I'm able to communicate with the audience with no words. I do it with a different language. For me, it's my way to connect with the audience."

Halifax fans can get a feel of that connection tomorrow night as Ortega and fellow acclaimed dancer Joaquin Ruiz of Spain highlight this year's Fall For Flamenco Festival with a performance titled Color Y Ritmo at the Rebecca Cohn Auditorium at 8 p.m.

if you go...

- What: Color Y Ritmo featuring Joaquin Ruiz and Inmaculada Ortega.
- Where: Rebecca Cohn Auditorium.
- When: Tomorrow, 8 p.m.
- Cost: $35 and $25. Call 1-800-874-1669.

Ortega and Ruiz are visiting Halifax to share their vision of flamenco, a Spanish art form that includes song, dance and guitar playing.

"It's going to be based in pure flamenco," Ortega said of their performance, which includes award-winning composer and guitarist Arcadio Marin. "It's something very traditional. It's not mixed with any kind of modern dances like a lot of people are doing now. It's very, very pure."

Ortega and Ruiz have been performing flamenco together for the last 10 years. Both bring different styles to the stage, but Ortega said it makes for a good combination. "I show the female style. It's very feminine, very sensual and very elegant. And he's very powerful," she said. "So, everybody can see the differences in style between a man and a woman."

This is the third annual Fall For Flamenco Festival in Halifax, with tomorrow night's performance marking the largest venue at which an event has ever been staged. The two-week festival concludes on Tuesday.

"I think flamenco is growing all over the world," said Ortega, who has been flamenco dancing since she was seven. "It's going to countries that don't have anything in common with Spain. Like Japan, like China or Israel."



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Spain's Inmaculada Ortega performs tomorrow with fellow dancer Joaquin Ruiz as part of the Fall For Flamenco Festival.

'Bizarre experience' inspires Fall Horsie record

PHILIP CROUCHER
philip.croucher@metronews.ca

Fall Horsie's Justin Karas has turned a negative into a positive.

About 18 months ago, Karas claims he was visited, mostly in dreams, by visions of the devil, images and thoughts he used as the creating influence for the Halifax band's second album, Devil(e)durge.

"The experience of that was affecting the way I was seeing things in my waking life as well," Karas said when explaining the new CD. "It was a bizarre experience, and that's sort of the thematic link between all of the songs on the album."

Released by Halifax's Youth Club Records, Fall Horsie is having its CD release show for Devil(e)durge tomorrow at 9 p.m. at the North Street Church. This is the second album for Fall Horsie, with Karas calling it "a drastic change" from its 2006 CD, From The Seams of Doors A Cone Of Light. The release date for Devil(e)durge is Oct. 28.

"The recording was a lot more ambitious. The songs are a lot larger and more complex" said Karas, the band's singer-songwriter. "I spent about two months working on each song for the new album, when most of the songs on the first album were written over the course of like 20 minutes."

Saturday's show is the kick-off of a new cross-Canada tour for Fall Horsie, which just wrapped up a coast-to-coast stint this summer as the opening act to Ghost Bees. The tour for Fall Horsie's goes until the end of November..



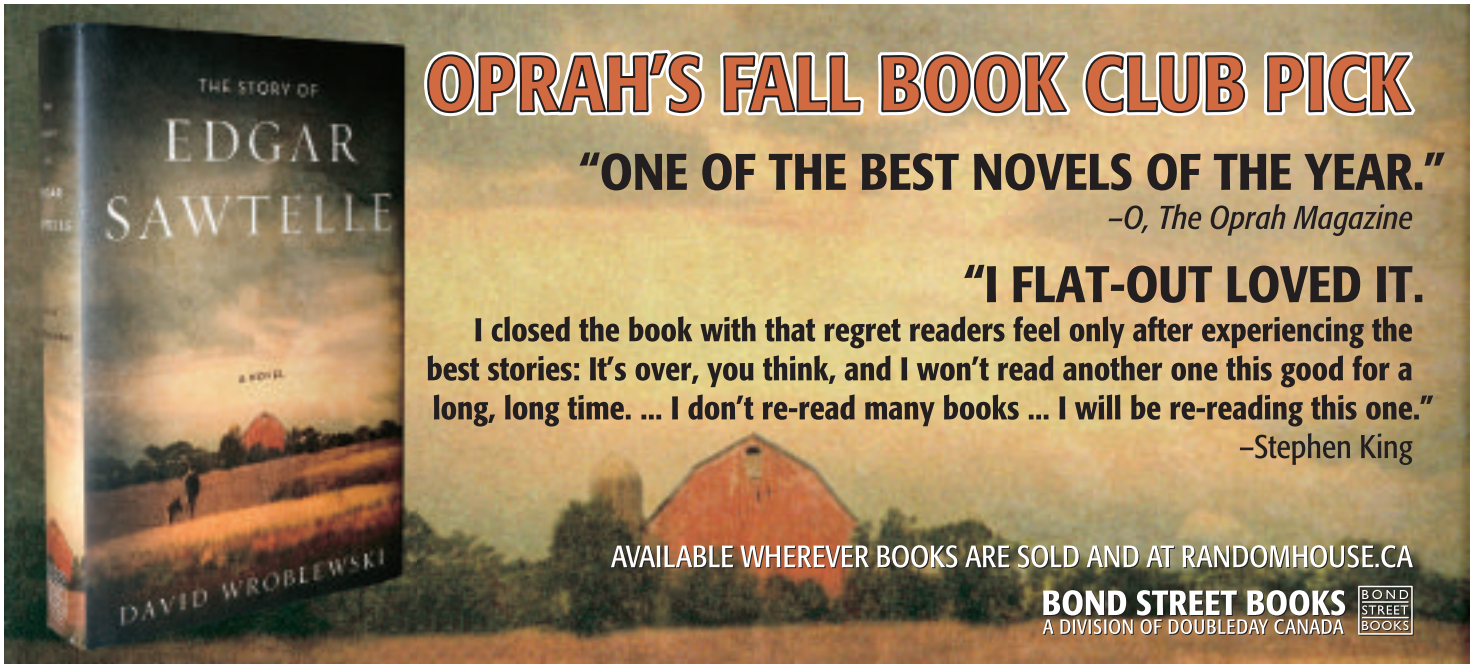
Fall Horsie's Justin Karas cites strange visions for his inspiration.

"I'm very much looking forward to it," Karas said. "This is going to be the first (tour) where the focus is on us." "

In brief

FILM FEST The Chester Playhouse's Fall Film Festival kicks off tonight at 7:30 p.m. with the Canadian premiere of Mexican director Pepe Bojorquez's romantic drama-fantasy Sea Of Dreams. An opening night reception (at 7 p.m.) will precede the film at the Chester Playhouse with a special guest musician. Films from the festival will also be shown on the next two Fridays. The animated film The Sparky Book will be shown Oct. 10 , followed by the comedy Young Triffie's Been Made Away With on Oct. 17. Tickets are $8 for adults and $5 for students.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Marquee Club
Steve Aoki with Snow Picnic, Andy Ares and Pussy Crush on Friday , Andru Branch, Halfway Tree, Verbal Warnin, the Ukeladies and DJ Friendlyness on Saturday, 2037 Gottingen St.

clubs

BAR AND GRILL: Jazz night on Wednesday. 1575 Argyle St.

BAY LANDING: Heritage on Saturday, 354 Prospect Bay Rd.

BEARLY'S: Theresa Malenfant on Friday and Saturday, Sunrise on Saturday matinee, Brad Conrad on Sunday, 1269 Barrington St.

BIG LEAGUES: Asia and Nu Gruve on Friday. 4 Forest Hills.

BOOMERS LOUNGE: Ten Mile House on Sunday. 1725 Grafton St.

BUBBLES MANSION: DJ Savory on Friday. DJ No Luv on Saturday. 5287 Prince St.

CELTIC CORNER: The Plugs on Friday and Saturday, Glenn Graham on Sunday. 69 Alderney Dr.

CHEERS: Sam Moon and Rick Gautreau matinuee on Friday. BB Grunt on Friday and Saturday, DJ Stickboy on Sunday. 1743 Grafton St.

COACH'S PUB: DJ Scott on Saturday. 552 Sackville Dr.

DAVE DOLITTLES: Karaoke on Friday and Saturday. 90 Tacoma Dr.

THE DOME: DJ Mike Clarke on Friday. DJ Dave "The Legend" MacIsaac and DJ Mike Clarke on Saturday. 1663 Argyle St.

DUTCHIE'S PUB: Jeff Bonang and friends on Sunday, 4 p.m. 3671 Dutch Village Rd.

ECONOMY SHOE SHOP: Clas Larsson with Cherly Edgett on Monday. 1661 Argyle St.

FINBAR'S: Paul Tuppe on Friday and Saturday. Sunnyside Mall.

GINGER'S TAVERN: The Stanfields with Deerfield on Friday, 1662 Barrington St.

GUS' PUB: Journalist, Wolf, The Establishment, Park Effects on Friday, 2605 Agricola St.

HARBOURFRONT ROOM: Rasta Gumbo on Friday and Saturday, Tony Quinn matinee on Saturday, Casino Nova Scotia.

THE JOLLY MUG: Sidekixx on Sunday. 15 Lakeland Rd.

LION'S HEAD TAVERN: Laurie the Guy on Friday and Saturday. 5833 Sullivan St.

LOWER DECK: Corey Tetford, Paul Lamb matinee on Friday and Saturday, Andrew Doyle Band on Friday and Saturday, Wreckhouse on Sunday. Historic Properties.

MARQUEE CLUB: Steve Aoki with Snow Picnic, Andy Ares and Pussy Crush on Friday , Andru Branch, Halfway Tree, Verbal Warnin, The Ukeladies and DJ Friendlyness on Saturday, 2037 Gottingen St.

MENZ BAR: DJ Needles and DJ Bear on Friday and Saturday. 2182 Gottingen St. 2182 Gottingen St.

MY SON'S PLACE: Open mic with Low Rider Band on Sunday. 223 Wyse Rd.

NENAGH BAR AND GRILL: Bruce MacKinnon on Saturday, 30 Farnham Gate.

NICHE: Mike Cowie's Waterbabies Jazz Quartet on Friday and Saturday. 1505 Barrington St.

O'CARROLL'S: David Dobon and Roger Stone on Friday and Saturday. Reel East on Sunday. 1860 Upper Water St.

OLD TRIANGLE: Blarney on Friday and Saturday. Seph Peters and David Stone matinee on Saturday. Kevin Roach on Sunday. 5136 Prince St.

OUR FRIEND'S PUB: Kitchen parties on Monday. John Snyder on Thursday. 19 Norm Newman Dr.

THE PALACE NIGHTCLUB: DJ Trixx on Friday. DJ Fierce on Saturday. 1721 Brunswick St.

PARKSIDE PUB: Parkside DJ on Friday, Sweet Revenge on Saturday, Leroy Bennett on Sunday matinee. 14 Highfield Park Dr.

THE PAVILION: Mainstreet Exit, Remember When, Constantly Misjudged, Union 24 on Friday, We, The Underground, What's He Building In There, Orchids Curse and Obsydian on Saturday, 5816 Cogswell St.

PEDDLER'S PUB: DJ Mathematix on Friday and Saturday, Granville Malll.

POGUE FADO: Soul Kitchen on Saturday,1581 Barrington St.

PORTER'S LAKE PUB: Low Rider on Friday, Karaoke on Saturday. 5528 Highway 7.

THE RED FOX: Joyride on Friday and Saturday, Bayers Road Village.

THE RED STAG: Bob Lambert musical comedy on Saturday. 1496 Lower Water St.

REFLECTIONS: Mizz Maxime and Steve The Viking on Friday, DJ Headphones on Saturday. 5184 Sackville St.

RIVERSIDE PUB: Sam Moon and Rick Gautreau on Saturday, 1552 Bedford Highway.

RODEO LOUNGE: Ryan Cook matinuee on Friday, Groundstar on Friday and Saturday. 121 Ilsley Ave.

THE SEAHORSE: The Grass with The Gideons and Andrea Ramolo on Friday, The Sleepless Nights with Great Plains and Slate Pacific on Saturday 1659 Argyle St.

THE SHORE CLUB: Da Rock on Saturday. 250 Shore Club Rd.

SNAUBAR: Live entertainment on Friday and Saturday. 1535 Dresden Row.

THE SPLIT CROW: Boys Next Door on Friday and Saturday. House Party Guys on Sunday, 1855 Granville St.

STAYNER'S WHARF: Brett Ryan on Friday and Saturday, Jeff Goodspeed and Friends matinee on Sunday, 5075 George St.

TRIBECA: Famous Players on Friday. DJ Double A on Saturday., Old Wagon Whiskey on Sunday, 1588 Granville St.

WHISKEY LOUNGE: Open mid with Louisa and friends on Saturday, 27-29 Portland St.

WINSTON'S: Beer Nuts on Friday, the Drive on Saturday. 278 Lacewood Dr.



Neptune's The Devil Disciples continues with showings all weekend at Neptune Theatre.

Win tickets to

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Click on WIN at metronews.ca for your chance to win a pair of tickets to see the Just for Laughs comedy tour on October 25th at 7:00 p.m. & 9:30 p.m.

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WITH SPECIAL GUEST
DANNY BHOY
Nationality: Scottish

AND FEATURING
PETE ZEDLACHER
Nationality: Canadian

DAVID O'DOHERTY
Nationality: Irish

HAL CRUTTENDEN
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www.artscentre.dal.ca

Line-up subject to change

Winners will be contacted by telephone by a representative. Contest closes at midnight October 9th.

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HAHAHA.COM/COMEDYTOUR

Studio 21
Works by Rick Evans, Harold Klunder, Ron Shuebrook and Jennifer Hornyak. Through Oct. 8. 1223 Lower Water St.

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galleries

ARGYLE FINE ART: The Road Show, new works by Stephen Rhude., Through Saturday, 1869 Upper Water St. The "Secret" fundraiser on Saturday and Sunday.

ART 1274 HOLLIS: Works by local artist. 1274 Hollis St.

ART GALLERY OF NOVA SCOTIA: Contemporaries, Tom Forestall paintings, Nova Scotia folk art exhibition, female photography exhibition, Roots of Democracy, Various dates. 1723 Hollis St.

ART-PORT GALLERY: Works by 12 local artists. Robert Stanfield International Airport.

CRAIG GALLERY: Autumn Gold by the Dartmouth Visual Arts Society. Through Oct. 12. Alderney Landing.

DALHOUSIE ART GALLERY: Exalted Beings: Animal Relationships. Through Sunday. 6101 University Ave.

HYDROSTONE GALLERY: Jaye Ouellette: Recent Paintings. 5519 Young St.

MOUNT ST. VINCENT ART GALLERY: Anthem: Perspectives on Home and Native Land. Through Sunday. 166 Bedford Hwy.

SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY ART GALLERY: Euan MacDonald: Two Places at Once, curated by Ann MacDonald and Barbara Fischer. Through Oct. 12. 5865 Gorsebrook Ave.

SECORD GALLERY: Paul Hannon and Dean Brousseua through Oct. 18. 6301 Quinpool Rd.

SEEDS GALLERY: Works by various artists from NSCAD University. 1892 Hollis St.

STUDIO 21: Works by Rick Evans, Harold Klunder, Ron Shuebrook and Jennifer Hornyak. Through Oct. 8. 1223 Lower Water St.

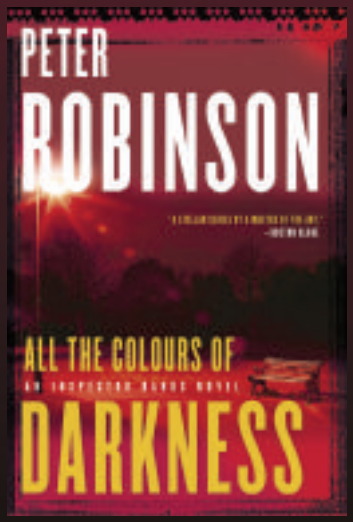


Regis Philbin will perform his nightclub act at the Casino Nova Scotia's Schooner Room on Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m.

VIEWPOINT GALLERY: Karen Nieuwland's Touchstones – Chapter One, Through Nov. 2, 1272 Barrington St.

ZWICKER'S GALLERY: Works by various regional artists. 5415 Doyle St.

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Flamenco Festival
Running through Oct. 7. Visit www.flamencofestival.ca for complete details.

museums

MARITIME MUSEUM OF THE ATLANTIC: Halifax vs. Louisburg: The Final Siege. Through Nov. 2 1675 Lower Water St.

MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY: The Whole Tooth And Nothing But The Tooth. Tuesday through Jan. 18. 1747 Summer St.

DISCOVERY CENTRE: The LEGO show, Secrets Of The Pharaohs starting today and running through Jan. 4, 1593 Barrington St.

PIER 21: Various exhibits. 1055 Marginal Rd.

theatre

GRAFTON ST DINNER THEATRE: Mairi's Best Friend's Wedding. Through Sunday. Call 425-1961 for reservations.

HALIFAX FEAST DINNER THEATRE: Cape Breton Idle III. Through November. 1505 Barrington St. Call 420-1840.

NEPTUNE THEATRE: The Devil's Disciple. Through October 12. 1,593 Argyle St.

events

ALEXANDER KEITH'S BIRTHDAY BASH: Exclusive party features Wintersleep, Slowcoaster and Wreckhouse on Sunday at 5:30 p.m., Citadel Hill

BELLA ROSE ARTS CENTRE: DRUM, Through Oct. 12. Visit www.bellaroseartscentre.com.

CASINO NOVA SCOTIA: Regis Philbin at Schooner Room on Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. Tickets $93, 1983 Upper Water St.

DALHOUSIE ARTS CENTRE: Live Arts Dance presents Marie Chouinard: Orpheus and Euridyce on Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. Tickets $25, Sir James Dunn Theatre, 6101 University Ave.

FLAMENCO FESTIVAL: Running through Oct. 7. Visit www.flamencofestival.ca for complete details.

PHOTOPOLIS: Photography festival running at various art galleries in Halifax and Dartmouth. Through Nov. 15.

SYMPHONY NOVA SCOTIA: William Eddins, classics by Beethoven, Mozart and Mendelssohn on Thursday at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are $47.50, $43.00 and $32.00.

YUK YUK'S: Stephen Patterson on Friday and Saturday, Westin Nova Scotia, Hollis St.

contribute

- To have your listings appear here, e-mail us at halifaxlistings@metronews.ca.



Marie Chouinard's Live Art Dance production Orpheus and Euridyce is being held at the Sir James Dunn Theatre on Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m.

Metro's 7th Heaven: What's hot right now

1 Jennifer Hudson

Former American Idol contestant turned Oscar-winning actress Jennifer Hudson finally released her self-titled debut album on Tuesday. The disc features the mellow and groovy song Spotlight, which is exactly where the powerhouse talent belongs.

2 Victoria Beckham's pixie cut

Designer Victoria Beckham's new do is the hottest thing in hairdressing at the moment, but it only works best on certain face shapes. "You'll need well-defined cheekbones and a low forehead to carry this look off," femalefirst.co.uk reports celebrity session stylist Denise Mcadam as saying.



3 Breast Cancer Awareness Month

"Pink" products are on sale this month to help support the fight against breast cancer, and why not take this time to think about cancer in a broader sense, too? There are more than 200 types of the disease, cancerhelp.org.uk reports, and it can develop in any organ. Awareness is one step toward gaining the upper hand over the illness.

4 30 Rock: Season 2

The sitcom 30 Rock recently won four Emmy Awards, and its second season comes out on DVD on Tuesday. The two-disc set includes commentary, deleted scenes, a "Cooter" table read and more.

5 The Story of Edgar Sawtelle: A Novel, by David Wroblewski

The Story of Edgar Sawtelle: A Novel is talk-show host Oprah Winfrey's lastest choice for her book club, which practically guarantees it a spot on the bestsellers' lists. Amazon.ca describes the debut novel by David Wroblewski as "modern take on Hamlet set in rural Wisconsin."

6 Whole grains

If it's a baked good, there's probably a whole-grain version of it. Packed with health benefits, "exotic grains such as amaranth, quinoa, teff, millet, and Kamut are going mainstream," says American Dietetic Association President Connie Diekman, MEd, RD.

7 Fall foliage

Mother Nature's annual foliage spectacular is taking place, so consider getting outside to a park or hiking trail, with a camera in hand, to create your own postcard-perfect pictures of nature transforming.



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United Way

4th Annual O'Regan's United Way Test Drive.
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Brit's gift of music

Pop star Britney Spears dropped by a middle school in The Bronx, N.Y., on Wednesday to present a $10,000 US check to be used as an endowment for the school's year-old music program. PEOPLE.COM

Celebrity Buzz

Khloe not keeping up with rehab

PEOPLE A judge has ordered reality TV star Khloe Kardashian to complete a court-imposed course of drug and alcohol classes in the next six weeks, after learning she had missed her deadline, imdb.com reports.

The Keeping Up With The Kardashians star was handed the sentence, along with a short jail term, when she was convicted of driving under the influence (DUI) in July.

A Los Angeles court was told on Wednesday Kardashian failed to complete the course because scheduled dates clashed with holidays when the centre was closed. She has now been given until Nov. 17 to attend the missed lessons, and ordered to spend a day working in an L.A. morgue. Kardashian, 24, has already spent 173 hours in a California jail, stemming from her 2007 arrest.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Doherty 'madly' loved Paris' sex tape ex

LOVE Actress Shannen Doherty admits, "I haven't made the best choices in men," in a new interview with Details magazine. She married George Hamilton's son, Ashley, in 1993 after two weeks of dating. They split seven months later. But out of all of her past romances, Doherty says she has no regrets over Rick Salomon, who appeared in the infamous Paris Hilton sex tape, usmagazine.com reports. "There was something that Rick provided that was amazing to me," the currently single star tells Details. Still, she adds, "I look at what he did (with Hilton) and think, 'God, that's disgusting.'" But during their 2002 marriage (which was later annulled), "I never had someone make me laugh so much. I was madly in love. It was a really hard marriage. When it ended, it was a heart-crushing thing."

METRO NEWS SERVICE



GETTY IMAGES PHOTOS

Legend's prediction was right: Arquette

LOVE Screen legend Bette Davis' prediction that actress Rosanna Arquette would be unlucky in love if she enjoyed career success has been proven correct — 30 years after the prophecy, the star is a triple divorcee, imdb.com reports. Davis gave the actress some words of advice back in 1978, when Arquette was just 19. Now, after three failed marriages, she is ready to concede that Davis was correct. "She told me that you can't have both a love life and a career in pictures at the same time, and it has proven to be true — she was right," Arquette tells the New York Post. Arquette, now 49, wed first husband Anthony Greco in July 1979, but divorced the following year. She then married James Newton Howard but split from him in 1987 after one year together. Her third marriage to John Sidel also ended in divorce. They parted ways after six years and have one child, 14-year-old Zoe.

METRO NEWS SERVICE



All-natural birth for Hart

MOTHERHOOD Actress Melissa Joan Hart was determined to give birth to her second child naturally and ordered her family to stop her demanding pain killers during her labour, imdb.com reports. The former Sabrina the Teenage Witch star delivered son Braydon in March, her second son with husband Mark Wilkerson. "I told my mom and my husband, don't let me have (the drugs)," she tells Us Weekly magazine. "I kinda regret that one. But the thing is, the healing was so much faster. I didn't have to get the drugs out of my system and was moving around a lot more. I laboured at home for nine hours and then went to the hospital for an hour and a half — two pushes and he was out."

METRO NEWS SERVICE



Mills not going anywhere

DENIALS Sir Paul McCartney's ex-wife Heather Mills has denied she plans to move to a Caribbean island owned by tycoon Richard Branson, branding the rumour "totally made up," imdb.com reports. Last month the former glamour model was alleged to be setting up home on Branson's exclusive Necker Island, in a bid to escape the press intrusion in her native Britain. "Wouldn't that (moving to Necker Island) have been lovely? Where was my daughter supposed to have gone to school? That's totally made up," she says.

METRO NEWS SERVICE



celebrity briefs

Fey cashes in with book deal

PEOPLE 30 Rock creator Tina Fey looks set to cash in on her recent Emmy triumph — she's reportedly been offered a whopping $6 million US to publish her first book, imdb.com reports. However, the book will not be a memoir — the publication claims it's been pitched as "non-fiction humour, more in the style of author, screenwriter and film director Nora Ephron."



7th Heaven star on Cloud 9

MARRIAGE 7th Heaven star Beverley Mitchell married Michael Cameron on Wednesday, People.com reports. The couple were married in Ravello, Italy. According to sources, among the 100 guests were Mitchell's former co-star — and bridesmaid — Jessica Biel along with her boyfriend Justin Timberlake.



Paltrow purges her closet

CHARITY Gwyneth Paltrow has cleaned out her closet for charity, selling a selection of her designer dresses to raise money for underprivileged kids, imdb.com reports. Paltrow, who lives in London, has decided to sell off all of her unwanted clothes and accessories in aid of British charity the Kids Company.

METRO NEWS SERVICE



"This makes no sense at all..."

by Joe O'Neill

To use a completely illogical metaphor, the train wreck that is the public life of **Heather Mills McCartney** just keeps chugging right along.

The latest is that Ms. Mills McCartney is denying she has plans to live on an island owned by **Richard Branson** in order to escape the prying eyes and flashbulbs of the press.

Let's examine this 'rumour' that she is denying, shall we?

First, it associates Mills McCartney with Richard Branson.

Second, it implies that she is under so much duress from media scrutiny that an escape to a remote island is necessary.

Given these two findings, I submit that Mills McCartney started the rumour she is now denying.

However, I do sympathize, since she evidently has nothing else to do with her time except count her divorce settlement money and perfect her 'crazy eyes' look in the mirror.

Heck, I'll even participate in Heather's insatiable quest for notoriety by suggesting alternate island locales that might also be considered for her exile. Please tell your friends.

1. **Gilligan's Island:** Hey, there's a rich guy there. All she has to do is wait for 'Lovey' Howell to die.
2. **Greenland:** I'm sure the sealhunters and whalers there would be very receptive to Mills McCartney's ideas about how they should support themselves.
3. **Thousand Islands:** The lone Canadian entry. Hey, there's a thousand of them, so Heather can hide on a different one every day from the throng of media that pursues her.
4. **The Island of Dr. Moreau:** Perfect. It only exists in fiction, much like Mills McCartney's perception of her own importance, and of the public's interest in her.

NEWSDESK@METRONEWS.CA

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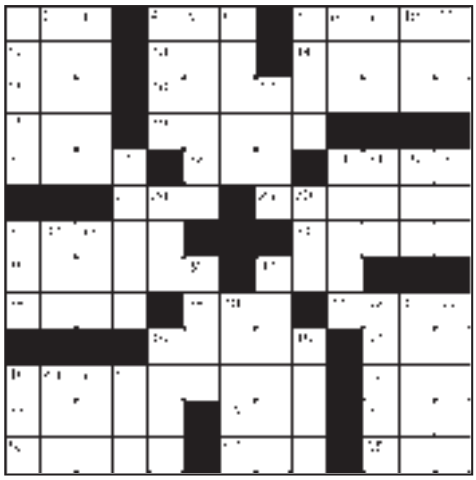
Today
Variable
15° / 10°

Saturday
Sunny
14° / 8°

Sunday
Partly cloudy
12° / 5°

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Take Five



Crossword across

1 Mischief-maker
4 Bird that lays green eggs
7 Rhino's cousin
12 Atl. state
13 PC-sharing setup
14 Unaccompanied
15 Greek vowel
16 Tour de France activity
18 Hindu title
19 Apportion
20 Bustle
22 "A mouse!"
23 Rams fans?
27 Frenzied
29 Cassandra Peterson's stage name
31 Bellybutton
34 Arts supporter
35 Slow passage
37 Announcer Pardo
38 Poet Pound
39 Air-pressure meas.
41 Hearty drink
45 Hot spot at a spa
47 Chromosome component
48 Eco-friendly activity
52 Hill dweller
53 Old market place
54 Afternoon social
55 Ball-bearing item
56 "The Planets" composer
57 Blunder
58 Storefront sign abbr.

Crossword down

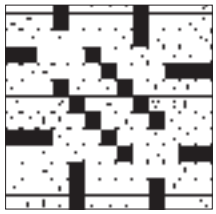
1 That is (Lat.)
2 Paris subway
3 Tartan pattern
4 Exile isle
5 Sent via the USPS
6 Quitter's cry
7 Diplomacy
8 The whole enchilada
9 Luau bowlful
10 B&B
11 — U.S. Pat. Off.
17 Oxen's burden
21 The end
23 Cowgirl Dale
24 Minn. neighbor
25 Before
26 Frivolous one, in song
28 Will Smith biopic
30 Author Buscaglia
31 Dundee denial
32 Wood-shaping tool
33 Kin of: alt sp.
36 Milky gemstone
37 Main meal
40 Hotel accommodation
42 Ire
43 Central
44 Microsoft founder
45 "Begone!"
46 Culture medium
48 "Hurray!"
49 Id counterpart
50 Army rank (Abbr.)
51 Decade parts (Abbr.)

Sudoku

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

				5		9	7	6
		4						1
	5				6		2	
			2			7		
5	2		9		3		8	4
		3			1			
	3		8				1	
7						5		
4	8	6		1				

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:



7	5	6	8	2	4	1	9	3
2	3	4	9	6	1	7	8	5
9	1	8	5	7	3	4	2	6
1	6	7	3	4	2	8	5	9
4	9	2	6	8	5	3	1	7
3	8	5	7	1	9	2	6	4
6	2	1	4	5	7	9	3	8
8	7	3	2	9	6	5	4	1
5	4	9	1	3	8	6	7	2

Find today's answers + play more games at metronews.ca

SUDOKU SOLVE TIME:
Under 13 min Genius
13-17 min.....Scholar
17-21 min Smart
21-25 min.....Not bad
25+ min.....Keep practising

Recipe of the day



Shrimp, Melon and Mango Salad

INGREDIENTS:
1 lb (500 g) cooked peeled large shrimp
1 mango
1 honeydew melon, peeled and cubed
8 cherry tomatoes, halved
3 cups (750 mL) arugula leaves
1 medium cucumber, sliced
Salt and pepper

DRESSING:
2 tbsp (25 mL) olive oil
Juice of 1 lemon
1 tbsp (15 mL) honey
2 tbsp (25 mL) chopped fresh mint

Fresh mint leaves as garnish

METHOD:
1. Whisk together all the dressing ingredients in a large bowl Season lightly with salt and pepper. Add the shrimp to the dressing, cover and leave to marinate in the refrigerator for 30 minutes to 1 hour.
2. Halve the mango lengthwise, cutting down each side of the pit. Cut the flesh on each half in a criss-cross fashion to make cubes, then cut the cubes away from the skin.
3. Remove the shrimp from the fridge. Add the mango, melon and tomatoes and gently stir together. Arrange the arugula leaves and cucumber slices around the edge of a shallow serving dish, and spoon the shrimp mixture into the centre. Garnish with sprigs of mint and serve.

Calories 242, calories from fat 54, fat 6 g, saturated fat 1 g, cholesterol 147 mg, carbohydrate 33 g, fibre 3 g, sugars 29 g, protein 18 g.
SERVES 6

rd.ca



For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to **rd.ca** or check out **Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!**

Horoscopes

AVATAR VENUS

ARIES
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
Team spirit and helpfulness will win the day. You will be asked to control yourself. A trip will bring contentment.

TAURUS
APRIL 21-MAY 21
True friends won't enjoy any spiteful gossip. Don't let pride stand in the way of accepting a benefit. An overwhelming sentimentality flusters you.

GEMINI
MAY 22-JUNE 21
Exciting thoughts will cloud your mind. Wear something fabulous to socialize. Subterfuge gives you something to think about.

CANCER
JUNE 22-JULY 22
People may think you're too conservative. You were told the absolute truth by a friend. Take care around supervisors and co-workers.

LEO
JULY 23-AUG 23
There's deep respect and appreciation for your loyalty. Dissatisfaction can cause snappish remarks to wound others. Unique ideas are being generated.

VIRGO
AUG 24-SEPT 22
A visitor creates tensions between friends. A strange battle affects your schedule. You'll remember the events that led to a loss.

LIBRA
SEPT 23-OCT 23
Find the time to do some self-nurturing. Questions about past activities will arise. Someone in charge thinks that you're a loose cannon.

SCORPIO
OCT 24-NOV 22
You have been misinformed about someone's negligence. A co-worker will ask for money. It's possible to defeat yourself by being tyrannical.

SAGITTARIUS
NOV 23-DEC 21
Discomfort causes you to investigate the truth. Everything you say seems to be unheeded. There's a lot of exaggeration going on.

CAPRICORN
DEC 22-JAN 20
Broken hearts will alter marriage plans. A dazzling object needs some mending. Be very straightforward in all your dealings.

AQUARIUS
JAN 21-FEB 18
Memories will be created by being brave. Being overcautious will retard your progress. Think hard before refusing some satisfying work.

PISCES
FEB 19-MARCH 20
Frustration is overcome with help of others. Keep future plans to yourself. Assistance causes more trouble than it's worth.



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Limited model shown

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